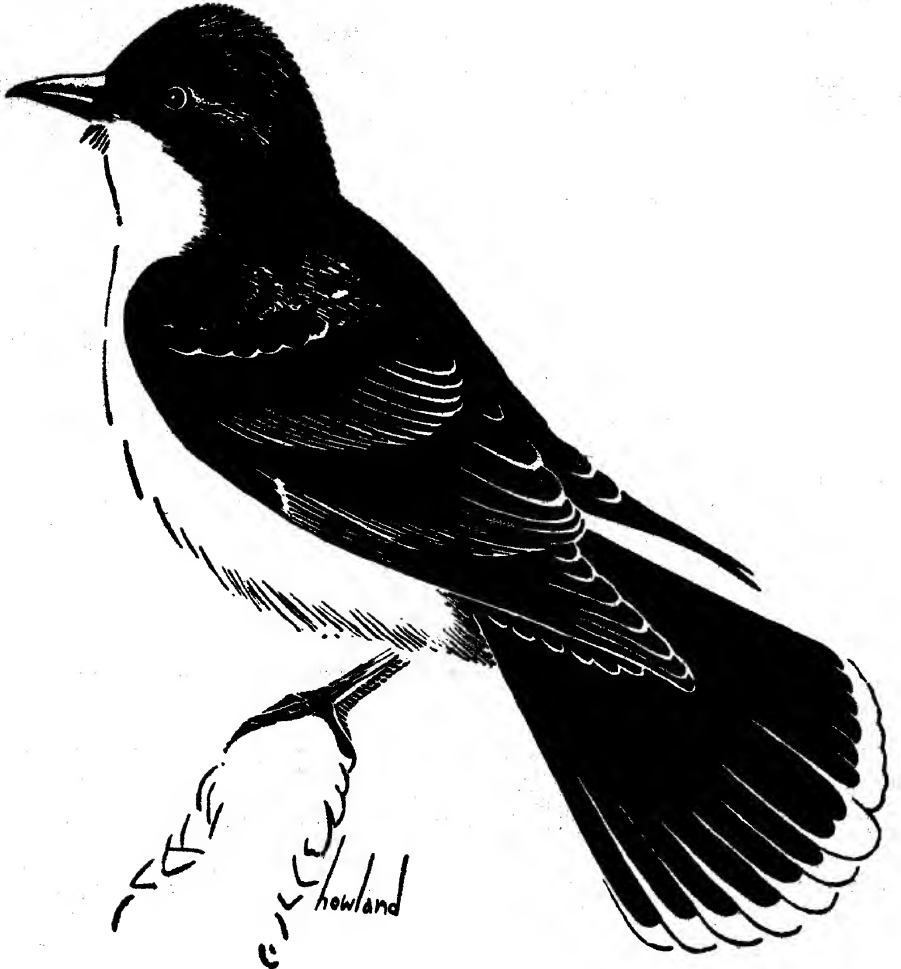


The **KINGBIRD**



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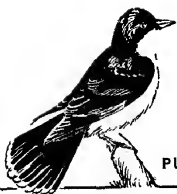
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The KINGBIRD

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A WINTER POPULATION OF YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLERS IN UPTATE NEW YORK

JAMES AND JUDITH STEWART

In past years, as the southerly push of fall migration has brought warblers through western New York State, a number of Yellow-rumped (Myrtle Warblers have stopped to overwinter in the Town of Junius, Seneca County. We have observed this population for the last two winters (1972-73 and 1973-74) and have reason to believe, from accounts of nearby residents, that Myrtle Warblers have wintered in Junius in previous years.

Of all warbler species, the Yellow-rumped is the most common of winter warblers in western New York. A survey of back issues of *The Kingbird* and *Audubon Field Notes*, and the reports on the Audubon Christmas censuses give an indication of the yellow-rumps' regularity. Rarely a year goes by without winter sightings from a variety of western New York locations. Certain localities have winter yellow-rumps more regularly than other areas. For instance, the Buffalo and Rochester Christmas counts report yellow-rumps almost yearly.

Unlike downstate and Long Island, where winter reports of several hundred Yellow-rumped Warblers have been reported, the western New York sightings tend to be of small size. The Mendon Ponds area of Rochester, with counts of seven during the winter of 1970-71 and six during the winter of 1965-66, had the highest numbers reported in the literature for the past ten years in upstate New York. Some examples of other locations reporting Yellow-rumped Warblers are:

Watkins Glen	1	1966-67
Montezuma	2	1969-70
Syracuse	1 or 2	several different winters

What has made the Seneca County population so interesting has been its size. During the past two winters we have made frequent observations on this population. During the winter of 1972-73 the population numbered at least nineteen, and during the 1973-74 season it numbered at least twenty-two. The birds could be regularly found on a 350-acre tract of land owned by the Seven Lakes Girl Scout Council and licensed by the Junius Ponds Natural Science Center. The land, named Camp Bayberry, is located two miles southeast of the Geneva Thruway exchange. The Junius Ponds area may be seen from the New York State Thruway, between the Geneva exchange and the Junius Ponds service area. The land itself is extremely diverse, with evergreen plantations, deciduous woods and bushy areas accompanying the pond environment. As expected, the warblers were often found feeding on the numerous bayberry (*Morella pennsylvanica*) bushes growing in the sandy soil. Bayberry, however, was by no means their only source of food.

Throughout the two winters, they were seen to feed on poison sumac (*Rhus vernix*) berries which grow around the two ponds and adjacent to a small stream which joins the two ponds. In addition, we have observed them working among white pines (*Pinus strobus*) in a vireo-like manner, probably in search of overwintering insect eggs, pupas or active adults. During the winter of 1973-74, there were several warm days during January when the temperature reached the high 50's. On these days, as insects began to fly, the yellow-rumps took to the tree tops in very typical warbler fashion. Also, during these thaws we observed that the warblers spent a great deal of time on the ground with flocks of Tree Sparrows and Juncos. Exactly what they were feeding on was not ascertainable although there were abundant seeds to be found there, as well as some insects.

Yellow-rumped Warblers (5) were also seen at a roadside edge of a deciduous woods area approximately three miles from the Junius Ponds site during the month of January, 1974.

828 Snyder Hill Road, Ithaca, New York 14850

NEW MEMBERS

The Federation welcomes the following new members:

Arendt, Gary, 3271 Wepax Road, Eden, New York 14057

Polshek, Peter 32 Washington Square, New York, New York 10011

Slotnick, Mrs. Karen, 211 Tolbert Drive, North Syracuse, New York 13212

SPRING MIGRATION ON GREAT GULL ISLAND, 1974

THOMAS VAN'T HOF

In the spring of 1974 I began banding migrants on Great Gull Island, (GGI) in Suffolk county, N.Y. on the 8th of April. This is the first year migrants have been netted daily before the first of June.

Small numbers of non-resident birds have been seen or netted almost daily through June and July in previous years. In this paper I have arbitrarily selected a cut-off date of June 30th for spring migration to eliminate confusion between late spring migrants, post breeding wanderers and early "fall" migrants. Using Bull (1964, 1970) as a guide I have listed selected banding (b) and sight (s) records which are either early or uncommon for the New York area. Numbers in parentheses represent the number of individuals seen or banded on a given date. Sight records bear the name of the observer.

King Eider: June 19 (1 s, Franck); immature male. Bull (1964:142, 1970:13) mentions two June records for this species and considers it rare after early April.

Peregrine Falcon: An adult was flushed from the rocks at the western end of the island on May 14. (s, Van't Hof)

Acadian Flycatcher: Single individuals were netted and banded on May 18; retrapped on the following day, 30, June 4, 5, 6. All were identified by using the key in Phillips *et. al.* (1966). The bird banded June 6 was recaptured on June 7 and died shortly afterward. It was prepared as a study skin, and its identification confirmed by Dr. Wesley E. Lanyon. It is obvious that the Long Island status of this species has changed remarkably since Bull's account (1964:295-296) was written; he knew of only two spring and one fall Long Island specimens since 1932. It should be noted that there are four previous records (Duffy and LaFarge, 1973) for this species on GGI; June 20, 1968 (1 b), June 12, 1972 (1 b), and June 4, 1973 (1 b).

Least Flycatcher: One banded on April 22 is among the earliest dates for the New York area (Bull, 1964:300).

Hermit Thrush: Of 23 individuals of this species banded between April 12 and May 1, six were second-year birds as indicated by retained white-spotted juvenile wing coverts; after May 1, none of the Hermit Thrushes handled showed these spots.

Golden-winged Warbler: A female was banded and photographed on May 25 and seen again on May 26. (s, LeCroy) This individual had a yellow wash on the breast, a probable indication of introgression of Blue-winged Warbler genes (Parkes, 1951:11; Short, 1963:150).

Yellow-throated Warbler: Bull 1964:382) gives the earliest spring date for this species in the New York area as April 15. An individual was seen on GGI on April 3. (s, Raynor) On April 19, a specimen was found in somewhat decomposed condition. It was identified by Dr. Kenneth

C. Parkes as *Dendroica dominica albilora* (formerly called "Sycamore Warbler"), and is apparently the third New York State specimen of this subspecies. Detailed discussions of the New York status of this species and its two local subspecies are given by Parkes (1953) and Bull (1964: 381-382).

Northern Waterthrush: The earliest date known to Bull (1964:389) for the New York area for this species was April 14. One was seen on GGI on April 7 (s, Van't Hof) and netted and banded on April 8.

Kentucky Warbler: This species is rare in the Long Island area, and Bull (1964:391) knew of no spring dates earlier than May 1 for anywhere in the New York area. A female was banded on GGI on April 29.

Mourning Warbler: May 17 (1 b), 24 (1 s, Van't Hof), 29 (1 s, Van't Hof), 30 (1 netted but not banded), June 5, (1 b), 6 (1 b). These are normal spring dates for this species in the New York area (Bull, 1934: 394-395). This species is considered rare to uncommon as a spring migrant (Bull, 1964: 395).

Orchard Oriole: An adult male was seen May 13 (s, Van't Hof). Bull (1964:405) states that this species is rare to uncommon spring migrant in the New York area.

Savannah Sparrow: One of the field-identifiable subspecies *princeps* ("Ispwich Sparrow") was seen on April 13 (s, Van't Hof), a fairly late date for this form in the New York area (Bull, 1964:443).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This paper is contribution #39 of the Great Gull Island Project. I am grateful to Miss Helen Hays for her unfailing encouragement and enthusiasm throughout the spring. Miss Hays, David C. Duffy and Kenneth C. Parkes gave many helpful suggestions with the manuscript. The above and Grace Donaldson Cormans, Ronald Franck, Mike Harwood, Helen Lapham and Mary LeCroy assisted with the netting and sight observations. Discussions with Dr. Parkes on the status of Yellow-throated Warbler and Golden-winged Warbler were very helpful as well as the identification of the sub-species *albilora*. Dr. Wesley E. Lanyon kindly confirmed the identification of the Acadian Flycatcher specimen. Mr. Gilbert Raynor sighted the Yellow-throated Warbler on April 3.

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Great Gull Island Project, Dept. of Ornithology, The American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79st Street, New York, N.Y. 10024.

FIELD NOTES

Cinnamon Teal Sighted at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge: On the morning of April 1, 1974, I encountered three teal on a small pond near the southeast edge of the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. This site is adjacent to a forested area which is part of an experimental green-tree impoundment operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The impoundment lies south of N.Y. Routes 5 and 20 and is bordered by the Seneca/Cayuga Canal to the south, the N.Y. Barge Canal on the east, and N.Y. Route 89 to the west.

Approaching the pond from the south, bright sunlight illuminated the brilliant plumage of a single Cinnamon Teal drake (*Anas cyanoptera*). I had never seen this species previously, but its identity seemed unmistakable. Accompanying the Cinnamon drake was what at first appeared to be a pair of Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*). Further observation, however, revealed that the Cinnamon drake carefully and continuously positioned himself between the female and the Blue-wing drake, and frequently pursued the intruding Blue-wing whenever he approached too closely. Since the females of these two species are indistinguishable in the field, the possibility existed that a pair of Cinnamon Teal may have been present. No inciting by the female was noted. Opportunity for photographs was excellent and several photos were taken for documentation. I made the accompanying photo (Fig. 1) at this time.

I notified refuge personnel by radio and soon Robert Gustafson, Wildlife Biologist, Vern Dewey, Biological Technician, Rod Outwait, Maintenance Worker, and Mr. Walter Benning, who was fortunately visiting refuge headquarters at the time, arrived. The Cinnamon drake and his apparent mate were amazingly tolerant of our presence—much more so than Blue-winged Teal would have been under similar circumstances. During a second sighting, on April 3rd, the pair had moved to a small ditch adjacent to River Road about half a mile from the first sighting. Here, I was able to study the teal (pair?) at distances of as close as 20-30 feet.

In discussion with Mr. Benning and refuge personnel, it is significant to note one peculiarity about the Cinnamon drake that aroused our curiosity. Close scrutiny of the drake revealed the presence of a small white "dash" mark immediately in front of the eye. This mark was situated at the apex of a blue-gray, tear-drop shaped mask that encompassed the eye and tapered to the nape of the neck; it was very similar to the mask which appears on the Green-winged Teal drake (*Anas crecca*). The existence of such a marking suggested that perhaps a cross between the two species had occurred. To my knowledge hybridization between *A. cyanoptera* and *A. crecca* has not been reported in the literature.

A close examination of the color slides taken of the Cinnamon drake was made and compared with the description and color plates of the Cinnamon Teal presented in Francis Kortright's (1942) *Ducks, Geese, and Swans of North America* (see pages 210 and 415). The following discrepancies were easily apparent:

1. presence of white "dash" mark in front of the eye,
2. presence of a blue-gray, tear-drop shaped mask about the eye, tapering to the nape of the neck,
3. presence of black spots highlighting the cinnamon-red sides and breast, and
4. presence of a prominent dusty white to pink flank marking.

Traits #3 and #4 appear strongly as basic drake Blue-winged Teal characteristics (See Figure 1). Indeed, even the white "dash" mark in front of the eye and the blue-gray mask coloration may be derived from the prominent white crescent and blue-gray head coloration, respectively, of the Blue-winged Teal drake.

It is important to note that Cinnamon Teal possess many behavioral and morphological features that place them intermediate between the Blue-winged Teal and the Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*), and that fertile hybrids have been known to exist with both of these species in the wild (see Johansgard, 1965, *Handbook of Waterfowl Behavior*, p. 203). Certainly the few Cinnamon Teal which find their way to the eastern United States are most likely to hybridize with the Blue-winged Teal, which breed in larger numbers than the Shoveler, and over a wide range that is comparable in latitude with the breeding range of the western Cinnamon Teal population.

This sighting is the first record for the Cinnamon Teal at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, and for the Cayuga Lake Basin. Bent's *Life Histories of North American Wild Fowl*, Part I, page 122, reports a sighting of the Cinnamon Teal on Seneca Lake in April of 1886.

G. Michael Haramis, New York Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Department of Natural Resources, Fernow Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14850.



Figure 1 — Blue-winged Teal drake (left) with Cinnamon Teal drake in pursuit.

The Ruff in Northern Seneca County: To my knowledge the first record of the Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) in northern Seneca County, New York occurred on Aug 17, 1963 at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. During the 1960's the species appeared there with some regularity during the summer or fall (see Ruff at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, *Kingbird* Vol. XIX, No. 4, p 205). The first spring record was on Apr 29, 1972 when a male in breeding plumage was sighted by the writer and subsequently seen by others. This was a dark bird with a chestnut brown ruff. In 1973 a bird thought to be an immature male was seen by Noel Cutright and Doug Kibbe on May 13. On May 18 the writer and others observed a rusty brown male with a black ruff.

On May 11, 1974 the writer found a very buffy individual, probably an immature bird. Up to this point no Ruffs had been seen away from Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge but between May 25 and July 8 of this year three Ruffs and two Reeves were found at the Waterloo dump which is located a few miles west of the Refuge.

Ruff No. 1 was found by the writer on May 25 feeding with several Pectoral Sandpipers (*Erolia melanatus*) in a wet mucky area of the dump used for the disposal of waste vegetable matter from the local cannery. It fed in deeper water than the Pectorals and at times completely immersed its head in the water. The bird was brown with large dark blotches on the breast. The feathers of the back and wings were broadly edged with light tan or buff. Dark bars crossed the tail. The belly was white. The dull yellow legs had a slight greenish tinge. The bill was dark. In flight a faint thin wing stripe showed and there were large white patches on either side of the dark central tail feathers. This bird was observed through May 27 by many persons including James and Judy Stewart, Morgan Jones and Robert and June Walker, who came from Watertown to see it.

Ruff No. 2 was found by the writer in the same small pool on July 6. It was a black bird with a brown ruff, light face, white belly and brownish wings barred with black. The legs were yellow-green and the bill black.

Ruff No. 3. The following day, when the writer returned to the dump, he found not only Ruff No. 2 but another present. This one had a black ruff and a light face. It was chestnut from the top of the head down the neck and back to the tail which was black. It had black barring from the middle of the back down to the tip of the tail. The brownish wings were mottled with black, white and tan. Its belly was white, legs yellow-green and bill black.

The two birds were about 100 feet apart and each had a small area in which it fed. They did not approach each other at any time. Lesser Yellowlegs (*Totanus flavipes*) and Least Sandpipers (*Erolia minutilla*) were feeding in the same area. Both birds were aggressive toward their feeding companions. Bird No. 3 was especially pugnacious, reacting forcefully to the approach any bird. Both birds were observed in flight and the white oval patches on either side of the tail were noted.

Reeves - Among the numerous persons who came to see the Ruffs were a group from Rochester on July 7 which included Warren Lloyd, Mary Ann Sunderlin, Bernard Olin and others. They found not only the two Ruffs but two Reeves as well.

This has been the "year of the Ruff" in Northern Seneca County.

All of the 1974 observations, which were reported as having been made by the writer, were made in good sunlight using 10 X 50 binoculars and a 30X scope.

W. E. Benning, R.D. 2, Clyde, N.Y. 14433

First Breeding Record of Bewick's Wren in New York State: On July 7, 1974, the junior author, conducting a breeding bird census on the Duck Pond watershed as one of the baseline ecological studies of The Mohonk Trust, Mohonk Lake, Ulster County, N.Y., discovered a pair of Bewick's Wrens (*Thryomanes bewickii*) nesting

between the rafters and roof of a rustic pagoda, at the top of a 200 foot, south facing escarpment of the Shawangunk Mountains. The senior author made primary confirmation of this identification on July 8 and it was later substantiated by Bradley J. Snyder, Fred N. Hough, Virginia Smiley, Alice Jones, Helen Manson, Davis Finch, Robert Smart, Tom Davis, et al. The nest, very loosely constructed of twigs, grasses, and hair, was 6' above ground level and 1490' above sea level. It contained (probably) 3 young in light down estimated to be 2-4 days old, but no good views of the nestlings could be obtained.

In the course of the nesting period, songs and alarm notes were noted and compared with recordings. The adult plumage and characteristic sideways jerking of the tail left no doubt in any observer's mind as to the identity of the birds. Both adults were seen at once, eliminating the possibility of a Bewick's X Carolina hybridization.

The young left the nest on July 17 and a group of 5 (3 young, 2 adults) were seen on the 22nd. They were observed regularly until August 11, at which time they seemed to disperse; it is probable that one juvenile was lost during this period.

Food gathering in the nesting period was done mostly to the east, along the slope or at its base, where the forest is more open. After leaving the nest the group was seen only in the thick undergrowth of mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) or among the tumbled rocks around the mountain top. Insects and larvae were the only foods observed to be taken.

Five distinct vocalizations were noted: the male song, an adult alarm note (bzzzt-), an adult location note (*plit-plit*), the squalling of the nestlings, and a food-begging *whweep*? of the fledglings.

The following species were seen regularly in the vicinity of the nest site: Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, American Robin, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Indigo Bunting, Rufous-sided Towhee, Dark-eyed Junco, and Field Sparrow. Significantly, no House Wrens were seen or heard in the immediate area.

Those wishing to check how far out of breeding range these birds were are referred to Bent, *Life Histories of North American Wrens, Thrashers and their Allies*, Smithsonian Institution Bulletin 195, 1948, p 181; and Todd, *Birds of Western Pennsylvania*, University of Pittsburgh Press, 1940, pp 417-20. It appears the closest previously known nest-site is 180 miles to the southwest of Mohonk Lake.

Daniel Smiley and James Stapleton, The Mohonk Trust, Mohonk Lake, New Paltz, N.Y. 12561

A Winter Record of Barn Swallows in Ithaca, New York: A late January thaw which sent temperatures into the 50's and a day of strong southerly winds heralded the arrival in Ithaca on January 27, 1974 of two Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) which could truly be called the first spring migrants of 1974! Both birds were observed the following day in flight along the south shore of Cayuga Lake near the mouth of Cayuga Inlet. On January 29 only one bird was seen, and neither bird was reported after that date although the weather remained unseasonably warm until the end of the month.

Tree Swallows (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) are known for their ability to winter further north than other swallows, particularly along the coast, by feeding on vegetation when flying insects are unavailable; and there are several reports of Tree Swallows lingering about marshes in central New York into January. However, Barn Swallows are virtually unknown in North America during the winter and all returning dates available from the Cayuga Lake basin were in April. John Bull (pers. comm.) indicates that the earliest previously reported arrival dates for New York State are March 19 (inland) and March 15 (coastal). He also states that the latest fall dates are November 17 (inland), December 1 (coastal specimen) and exceptionally to December 19 on Long Island. The two Ithaca birds appear to be the only mid-

winter record for New York State.

The Ithaca observation is made all the more interesting by a secondhand, unverified report from James Briggs of two Barn Swallows appearing in the vicinity of Binghamton in Broome County during this same warm spell. These birds reportedly reoccupied an old nest on a building and fed in the area for several days.

Douglas P. Kibbe, 115 Mount Lebanon Blvd., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15228

Ed Note: Mr. Kibbe's report gives me some belated satisfaction. In the early '50's, while driving to the Cornell campus on old Route 13, the first week of February in a snow squall. I saw a Barn Swallow fly across the road in front of me. and circle back and forth several times. There was no doubt in my mind of the identification, but it seemed so impossible, and I saw it so briefly with no other observer present, that I never put the record in print. It was close to the Cornell beef cattle barns, and conceivably could survive feeding on flies and other insects in and around the barns. I did not think of this bird as an early arrival, however, but a lingerer, which did not go south at the usual time, for some unknown reason. — SHS, Field Notes Editor.

Early Nest of American Goldfinch: For the past two years I have been observing nesting habits of the American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) in a field of approximately 5 acres located in the Town of Pompey, Onondaga County. The field is fallow, growing up to Hawthorns, Red Osier Dogwood, Staghorn Sumac and various grasses. There is a small cattail marsh at the east end of the field, a Red Pine plantation at the west end and a Scotch Pine — Tamarack plantation on the north side. Thistle grows in abundance in nearby fields.

I check this area for nests from the beginning of May as it is used by many species of birds. The American Goldfinch does not normally nest until the second week of July and continues throughout the summer. I was able to locate 33 goldfinch nests in this field in 1973.

On June 12, 1974, I was crossing the marsh and saw a female goldfinch sitting on a nest in the crotch of a small chokecherry. I approached and the bird remained quiet until I was within two feet of her. When she flew, I saw that there were two typical bluish-white eggs. Over the past two years, I have seen that the goldfinch does not start incubation until the clutch of 4 to 6 eggs is complete. I assumed that the female was on the nest to lay another egg or that part of her clutch had been destroyed and she was completing incubation of the two eggs. I returned on June 14th, but found the eggs gone and the nest abandoned. Several days later I found the nest torn apart.

I checked with the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's Nest Record Card Program and found that they have only 150 cards on this species, but that their earliest nest dates are in July.

In the Arthur Bent Life History series, he mentions that Andrew J. Berger of Ann Arbor, Michigan, found a goldfinch nest "on the early date of June 11, 1947." He mentioned that it was a two-story nest over cowbird eggs, but does not mention if there were any goldfinch eggs at that date.

Dorothy W. Crumb, 3983 Gates Road, Jamesville, N.Y. 13078

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SUMMER SEASON

JOSEPH W. TAYLOR

Generally speaking, the summer weather across the state would be classified as "good", albeit a touch on the wet side. Particularly June was wetter than normal, but August was on the dry side, and everywhere were the usual short-lived very hot spells. On the positive side, the weather produced abundant vegetation for good nest concealment (Region 1) and an outstanding fruit and cone crop (Region 7). Negatively, the high water flooded some otherwise good shorebird habitat (Region 2) and ruined some nestings (Region 5 — which apparently was wetter than the rest of the State.)

Hérons as a whole seemed to enjoy good breeding success across the state. Particularly was this true of the Great Blue which was reported as normal (3, 4, 8) or better (1, 5, 6, 9), and even Black-crowned Night Herons, which in many areas have been very scarce, may be turning the corner (1, 2, 7, 9). There was a mild incursion of Great Egrets (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 9), and Snowy Egrets occurred in 1, 2 and 9. Cattle Egrets nested for the first time in western New York (2) and for the second year in a row in 7 — the Adirondack Region, on islands in Lake Champlain. Ducks were in about normal numbers, except for the Black which continues to decline, being reported as down (3), low (2, 5, 6) or non-existent (1); the exception is Region 7 where "many broods" of Black Ducks were reported.

The extent of the northward (and eastward?) movement of the Turkey Vulture is shown by the fact that they were reported from all Regions except 2 and 8. Goshawks nested in 1, 2 and 3 and were seen in 7 and 8. Of the buteos, Red-tails continued to prosper everywhere (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8), and Broad-wingeds apparently bred in 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9. Red-shoulders continued scarce in most areas (1, 5, 7, 8), but a few reported them in reasonable numbers (3, 4, 9). Shorebirds returned on time and in average numbers except in 2 and 5 where their presence was affected by the high water and resultant reduced habitat referred to above. Willets appeared again this summer in the western part of the state (1, 2), and two Ruffs in breeding plumage and two Reeves were reported in 3. Wilson's Phalarope occurred in 1, 2, 3 and 5 and Northern Phalarope in 5 and 6. Gulls were in normal numbers, but Terns were scarce, both Common (2, 5) and Black (2, 3 and 5). The exception in the case of the Black Tern is the Upper & Lower Lakes Wildlife Management Area in Region 6 where these birds were in large numbers. Both Cuckoos were everywhere in low numbers, Mourning Doves, on the other hand, are booming.

Common Nighthawks were scarce in some Regions (1, 2, 5) and close to normal in others (3, 4, 7). With the possible exception of Rough-winged Swallow (1, 3, 5, 7) the Swallow species appear to be recover-

ing from their lows of a few years ago. Especially is this so in the case of the Purple Martin (1, 2, 3, 6, 9). Wrens were spotty. House Wrens were up in many Regions (1, 3, 4, 5, 8). Winter Wrens were found in new places or in increased numbers (2, 5, 6), and where they were reported Carolina Wrens continued to increase (1, 4, 5, 9). Conversely Long-billed Marsh Wrens were either unreported or in very low numbers in most Regions (1, 3, 5, 8), the exception being 9 where in some marshes it was reported as abundant. The Mockingbird continues to extend its range northward (1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7), but, incredibly, Loggerhead Shrikes were totally unreported except for Region 6. What has happened to this bird? Warblers generally seem to have nested in normal numbers, although in the more northern counties Northern Waterthrushes were scarce (6, 7). House Finches were unreported from Regions where they had previously been seen (1, 2), but continued to increase in others (3, 4).

Rarities for the season included Mute Swan (1), Cinnamon Teal (3), Yellow-crowned Night Heron (2, 9), Swallow-tailed Kite (9), Western Sandpiper (1), American Avocet (3), Raven (3), Acadian Flycatcher (2, 5, 9) and Bewick's Wren-breeding (9).

It is exceedingly disappointing to me that we cannot get timely reports from Region 10.

20 Parish Road, Honeoye Falls, New York 14472

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

VIVIAN MILLS PITZRICK

Goldilocks would have enjoyed this "not too" summer: "not too" hot and "not too" dry — but "just right". Although between June 2nd and 10th temperatures averaged 6.3° above the June normal, the average for the total summer period was close to normal. With precipitation for June, 1 inch, and for July, 2 inches, above average at higher elevations of the Region, abundant vegetation afforded optimum nest concealment even through the August period when rainfall was 1.7 inches below normal. (Meteorological data by Courtesy of Robert Place, Alfred Coop. Weather Station.)

Reports were received this year from Breeding Bird Surveys conducted in Allegany County. In 1970 a program of eighteen "mini" Breeding Bird Survey routes was initiated in the county by Doctor Clarence Klingensmith, after the plan of the Fish and Wildlife Breeding Bird Survey. Each route is 12 miles, with 25 stops, and starts a half hour before sunrise. With exception of some routes in 1972 because of the flood, all have been covered each year in June or early July. Species reported on these surveys in previous years, but absent in 1974, include; Mallard, Wood Duck, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Bobwhite, American Woodcock, Common Snipe, Upland Sandpiper, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Purple Martin, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Northern Waterthrush and Red Crossbill. Totals for this year are 8262 individuals and 93 species. Observers for 1974 were. EB, LB, Donald Clark, Christine Ferrand, CK, Erna Larson, Katherine Palmer, VP, Ronald Stuble, and Larry Wilson, with assistants: DB, Jane

Clark, Terry Keir, Mark Klingensmith, Jane Moore, and Maynard Stohr.

Because of the valuable information accumulated, a summary of these "mini"-route Allegany County Breeding Bird Surveys (abbreviated, "ACBBS") is included in the compilation below following each species observed this year, in the form "(a, b, c, d, e)". The letters in order represent. (a) 1974 total individuals, all routes. (b) "An 'index' obtained by dividing the total number of individuals of the species by the number of routes (18),... rounded to nearest whole number, or a + used if less than 0.50". (c) "The arithmetic average of the index for each of the five years (1970-1974). The indices before rounding were used and the resulting average was rounded to the nearest whole number". (d) "The standard deviation ... computed from the indices before rounding. No analysis was made of the various biases that can influence the sampling counts." (e) Per cent of stops where species was observed this year, found by dividing total of such stops by 450 (25×18) and multiplying by 100.

A new Breeding Bird Survey (abbreviated, "GRBBS") in Allegany County was set up, also by Doctor Klinienschmidt, and carried out during June and early July this year, on foot beside the Genesee River, covering about 12 miles in four sections along the abandoned Wellsville-Addison-Galeton Railroad bed from the county line near Genesee (Pa) north to Weidrick Bridge. Participants were; Dan Babcock, David Brooks, EB, Christine Ferrand, CK, Mark Klingensmith, Erna Larson, James Mullen and Katherine Palmer. Total of individual birds recorded was 1162, and of species, 67. A summary for each species observed is reported below in the form "(3-2)", this example meaning: 3 individuals observed on 2 sections of the survey.

Many nestings included in this summer report are presented briefly from field work done in connection with the North American Nest-record Card Program of the Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

Rarities include: Mute Swan, Goshawk, Western Sandpiper and Wilson's Phalarope.

Worthy of note during the summer months were: Gadwall, White-winged Scoter, Osprey, Golden-crowned Kinglet, "Brewster's" (Hybrid) Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Red Crossbill, White-throated Sparrow and Lincoln's Sparrow. Received too late for the Spring report are two unusual May sightings: Worm-eating Warbler and Connecticut Warbler.

As a reference for "extraordinary" observations, the following is used: *Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario*, published by the Buffalo Ornithological Society, Inc., 1965, with Supplement, 1970. (Hereafter: *BOS Date Guide*)

Abbreviations; AC-Allegany County; Ad-Adult; AL-Amity Lake; ASPk-Allegany State Park; BBS-Breeding Bird Survey; Bflo-Buffalo; BgsS-Burgeson Sanctuary, Frewsburg; Blm-Belmont; BOS-Buffalo Ornithological Society; Cb-Cuba; Chaut-Chautauqua; GI-Grand Island; GR-Genesee River; INWR-Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; Jms-Jamestown; L/M-Lake and/or Marsh; mob-many observers; Nia-Niagara; T/-Township of; TiBch-Times Beach Wlsv-Wellsville; WR-Wildlife Refuge; Yo-Young.

Contributors: RA-Robert Andrie; EB-Elizabeth Brooks; DB-Doris Burton; LB-Lou Burton; RhK-Rhea Keople; RK-Robert Keople; CK-Clarence Klingensmith; HM-Harold Mitchell; RPz-Raymond Pitzrick; VP-Vivian Pitzrick; RS-Robert Sundell.

Observers: HA-Harold Axtell; PA-Patricia Andrie; RaA-Rachel Axtell; TB-Thomas Bourne; DD-Dorothy Danner; HK-Harriette Klabunde; WK-Walter Klabunde; JM-John Morse; MP-Michael Pitzrick; FR-Frances Rew; AV-Allen Valentine; MaW-Margaret Wendling; W-Marie Wendling; RW-Robert Wagner.

Corrigendum: Vol. XXIV, No. 2 (May 1974) page 69, line 12 should read, "IVORY GULL: ... Dec 29 at Dufferin I outlet, ... photographed Dec 30 (WV

et al) and again sighted Dec 31 at Buckhorn I State Pk, . . . ; the only prior report for the area was Feb 10, 1934 (WV) . . . " (Thanks, to RS.)

LOONS-DUCKS: Common Loon; up to four spent the summer, June 1-Aug 8, Mayville, Chaut. L (RS, Olson). Great Blue Heron: ACBBS (7, +, +, -, 1.3); GRBBS (3-2); from a colony of 3 nests, 9 Yo had fledged June 17, Beebe Hill Rd., T/Cb, and in one of 28 nests, 2 to 4 Yo were in each nest June 18, Olean Airport area (RK, RhK *et al*); a colony of 79 nests observed June 18, Seneca Pool, INWR (Morse), Green Heron: ACBBS (9, 1, 1, .12, 1.8); GRBBS (7-4); a nest of 4 eggs produced 4 Yo June 15 T/Aurora (Patterson). Great Egret: singles reported June 8 E. Eden Pond (TB), June 18, 22 INWR (JM) and Aug 7 TiBch (Wilcove). Black-crowned Night Heron: 18(!) July 24 Nia F, Ont (RA). Least Bittern; one June 27 INWR (JM). American Bittern: no reports. MUTE SWAN: one sighted June 1-28, Bertis Bay, Chaut L (RS, Olson *et al*). Canada Goose: one June 28, Mohawk Is, Ont (RA *et al*); 2 Ad 5 Yo June 18, Langford (TB). Mallard: GRBBS (1-1); 1 Ad 11 Yo June 3, Scio (VP); 3 Ad on 3 nests, plus 2 Ad 16 Yo June 18, Cb M (RK, RhK); 6 Yo July 31, Blm (DB, LB). Black Duck; no reports. GADWALL: outside BOS *Date Guide*: up to ten July 10-17, Ti Bch (RA *et al*) and two July 21, Ti Bch, Bflo (Schaffner, Clark). Pintail: a single appeared July 25, Ti Bch, Bflo (Wilcove, Goodman). American Wigeon: 7, 4 July 10, 11, Ti Bch, Bflo (RA *et al*); 10 Yo June 28 INWR (JM). Northern Shoveler: 1, 2 Aug 12, 13, Ti Bch, Bflo (RA). Wood Duck; one Ad 8 Yo June 15, only sightings on GRBBS; 1 Ad 5 Yo from nesting box June 17 Cb M (RK, RhK); 1 Ad 5 Yo July 31, Blm (DB, LB). Lesser Scaup: a single reported June 24, Mayville, Chaut L (RS, Olson). WHITE-WINGED SCOTER: a very late one July 24, Nia F, Ont (RA). Blue-winged Teal: one nesting report: 1 Ad with 7 Yo June 17, edge Cb M (RK, RhK). Hooded Merganser: 1 Ad 7 Yo June 13, Beaver Meadow WR (MaW, MW). Common Merganser; 2 June 3, Scio (VP); 3 July 24, Nia F, Ont (RA). Red-breasted Merganser: only report: singles June 3, 6, Chaut L (RS, Olson).

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture: summer reports scarce: GRBBS (2-2); 2 July 17 Alf (EB); 2 June 18 Alf (DB, LB, EB); nesting record: one nest in hollow log surrounded by water, June 10, INWR (JM). GOSHAWK: one June 5, Bolivar (Smith); a nest with 1 Ad 3 eggs (probably infertile) June 16, T/Almond (DB, LB, Schriver, Wood). Sharp-shinned Hawk: singles reported: Aug 4, Blm (DB, LB) and Aug 14, AL (VP). Cooper's Hawk: ACBBS (1, +, -, -, 0.2); nest with 1 Ad 3 Yo, banded June 16, T/Rushford (DB, LB, Schriver, Wood) Yo at same nest July 11 (DB, LB); singles, July 11 Bgs (RS *et al*) and July 12, Spring Brook (DD). Red-tailed Hawk: ACBBS (10, 1, +, .20, 2.2), GRBBS (1-1); good numbers of Ad all season with usual nesting areas apparently occupied. Two nests, AL. unsuccessful (VP). Two Yo reported from successful nesting Aug 11, Cb L (RK, RhK); delayed report from Erie and Chaut Counties lists 5 nests watched Mar 23-May 19; from at least 11 eggs 7 Yo hatched and were later banded; final count on fledged Yo is not yet available (AV, J. Patterson). Red-shouldered Hawk: only report: nest, T/Birdsall, predated by raccoon, June 16 (DB, LB, Schriver, Wood). Broad-winged Hawk; two unsuccessful nestings reported: one Ad on nest June 2, 23 Scio, and 1 Ad near previously occupied nest June 3, AL: nests abandoned possibly because a bulldozer moved into each area (VP). Marsh Hawk, ACBBS (1, +, +, -, 0.2); singles June 20 and July 8, Alf (CK) and Aug 7, AL (VP). OSPREY: only report and outside BOS *Date Guide*: one July 11, 13, Bgs (RS *et al*); no appearance as in former years at AL, probably the result of nearby logging operations with extensive mud runoff into lake, since corrected by diversion ditches and settling pond (VP). American Kestrel: ACBBS (6, +, +, .20, 1.1); GRBBS (8-4) including 1 Yo July 3.

Ruffed Grouse: ACBBS (1, +, +, .09, 0.2); singles June 11, 28 AL (VP). Ring-necked Pheasant: ACBBS (7, +, +, .19, 1.6); one July 4 AL (VP); 3 Yo

June 13, BOSWR, GI (HK,WK). Turkey: ACBBS (2, +, +, -, 0.2); 3 June 2, ASPk (RS *et al*); one June 11 AL (VP); one June 12, Chestnut Ridge Pk (TB). No Rails reported. American Coot: no reports. Semipalmated Plover: first of migration: one July 8, Ti Bch (Wilcove,Goodman); one July 29 Erie Beach, Ont (RA *et al*). Killdeer: ACBBS (56, 3, 4, 1.2, 9.3); GRBBS (9-2); nest reports: one AL unsuccessful, and one Wlsv, 3 Yo fledged June 16 (VP). Ruddy Turnstone: first of migration: one July 29, Erie Beach, Ont (RA *et al*). American Woodcock: one June 17, AL (VP); 2 July 1, AL (VP,MP); 2 July 25 Alf (CK); late spring nesting report: a nest with 4 eggs May 19 was found empty, intact, May 22, and a second with 3 eggs May 29 was found empty, intact, June 8, Alf (EB). Common Snipe. only reports: singles June 25 at Dale, Wyoming Co. and at W. Bethany, Genesee Co. (RA, PA). Whimbrel: received too late for Spring issue: 2 at Windmill Point and 13 at Morgan's Point, May 26, on BOS field trip into Ont (mob). Upland Sandpiper: none reported. Spotted Sandpiper: ACBBS (3, +, +, .12, 0.7). Solitary Sandpiper: 3 Aug 3, W. Almond (DB, LB). Willet: one Aug 11 Ti Bch (Hauser). Lesser Yellowlegs: first of migration: 7 July 10 and 32 July 11, Erie Beach, Ont (RA *et al*); 131(!) Aug 4, Ti Bch (Clark). Pectoral Sandpiper; first of migration: one July 25, Erie Beach, Ont (Wilcove, Goodman). White-rumped Sandpiper: one June 12, Ft Erie, Ont (FR), and first of late migration: one July 31 Prendergast Pt, Chaut L (RS, Olson, Woodard). Baird's Sandpiper: first of migration: one July 31, Bemus Creek, Chaut L (RS, Olson, Woodard). Least Sandpiper: first of migration: 5 July 10, Erie Beach, Ont (RA *et al*). Short-billed Dowitcher; first of migration: 7-15 July 11, 12, 17, 23, Ti Bch, Bflo (RA *et al*); one appeared Aug 3, Prendergast Pt, Chaut L (RS *et al*). Stilt Sandpiper: first of migration: one July 18, Erie Beach, Ont (Wilcove); 2 July 21, Ti Bch, Bflo (RA *et al*); one Aug 2, Prendergast Pt, Chaut L (RS *et al*); and 6 Aug 7, Ti Bch, Bflo (RA). Semipalmated Sandpiper: last of early migration: 5 June 12, Ft Erie, Ont (HM); first of late migration: 3 July 10 and 55 July 11, Ti Bch, Bflo (RA *et al*); max: 500 Aug 10, Ti Bch (Clark). WESTERN SANDPIPER: one sighted July 23, Erie Beach, Ont (RA *et al*). Sanderling: first of migration: one July 19, Dewittville Creek, Chaut L (RS,Olson); one July 23 Erie Beach, Ont (RA *et al*). WILSON'S PHALAROPE: one recorded Aug 4, Ti Bch (Clark).

Bonaparte's Gull: a large flock, 110, July 14, Port Weller, Ont (RA,PA); one July 25, Erie Beach, Ont (Wilcove, Goodman). Caspian Tern: a few observed again: 3, 2, 3, July 10, 17, 30, Ti Bch, Bflo (RA *et al*), and 2 Aug 8, Fluvanna, Chaut L (RS *et al*). Rock Dove: ACBBS (95, 5, 8.0, 2.7, 5.6). Mourning Dove: ACBBS (108, 6, 6, 1.3, 18.9); GRBBS (7-4); nesting report: from 5 nests observed, May 20-June 18, 1 nest predated, 7 Yo fledged, AL (VP). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: no reports. Black-billed Cuckoo: ACBBS (5, +, +, .23, 1.1); 2 June 10 and 1 to 2 July 9-28, AL (VP).

Is it Owls or Owlers who are scarce during summer? Few reports: Great Horned Owl: 3, 1 June 2, 23, Scio (MP,RP,VP). Long-eared Owl: 1 Yo June 21, Beaver Meadow WR (HM *et al*).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLINGS: Whip-poor-will only reports: 2 June 1, T/Cold Spring (RS); one June 3, Hamburg (TB). Common Nighthawk: no reports. Chimney Swift: ACBBS (44, 2, 2, .47, 4.4); GRBBS (26-4); from two nests, 6 Yo fledged July 28, Blm (DB,LB). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: ACBBS (3, +, +, .11, 0.7); GRBBS (6-2). Belted Kingfisher: ACBBS (17, 1, 1, .37, 2.9); GRBBS (9-4). Common Flicker: ACBBS (34, 2, 3, 1.2, 7.1); GRBBS (23-4); nesting reports: 1 Ad feeding Yo in nest, May 26, Cb (RK,RhK); from 4 nests observed, May 2-Aug 2, at least 6 Yo fledged, AL (VP). Pileated Woodpecker: ACBBS (1, +, +, .12, 0.2); few reports; nesting record: one nest, at least 1 Yo, June 15, T/Aurora (AV, Patterson). Red-headed Woodpecker: ACBBS (1, +, -, -, -); 3 June 16, one July 21, Rossburg (VP,MP,E.Pitzrick); one July 15, 22-31, Blm (Casterline,DB,LB). Yellow-

bellied Sapsucker: ACBBS (1, +, +, .21, 0.2); singles seen June 24–28, July 3, 8, Alf (CK); Spring nesting record: 2 Ad feeding Yo in nest May 19, Cb (RK,RhK). Hairy Woodpecker: ACBBS (2, +, +, .17, 0.4); GRBBS (1-1); one nest reported: June 12, 2 Ad feeding Yo in nest, outcome unknown, AL (VP). Downy Woodpecker: ACBBS (18, 1, 1, .32, 2.9); GRBBS (1-1). Eastern Kingbird: ACBBS (45, 3, 3, .82, 7.8); GRBBS (4-3); 4 Ad 4 Yo July 15 and one nest: July 16, 2 Ad 2 Yo near nest, AL (VP). Great Crested Flycatcher: ACBBS (41, 2, 2, .54, 8.2); GRBBS (1-1). Eastern Phoebe: ACBBS (93, 5, 7, 2.1, 16.2); GRBBS (5-3); nesting reports: two nests, Ad feeding Yo June 13, Cb (RK,RhK); out of 8 nests, from at least 29 eggs, 21 Yo fledged, with one of these nests parasitized by Brown-headed Cowbird and successfully producing 1 Yo E. Phoebe and 1 Yo Br.-h. Cowbird, Apr 21–July 18, AL, Scio and Rossburg (VP). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last of migration: one June 2 Tift Farm Sanct., Bflo (AV,Patterson). Alder Flycatcher: ACBBS (18, 1, 1, .16, 36); GRBBS (7-4); nesting: 3 Yo in nest, 3 to 4 days old July 11, and Ad feeding Yo near nest July 21, Alf (EB). Willow Flycatcher: ACBBS (1, +, -, -, -). Least Flycatcher: ACBBS (38, 2, 3, .99, 7.8); GRBBS (2-2); 2 Ad 2 Yo July 15, AL (VP). Eastern Wood Pewee: ACBBS (29, 2, 2, .60, 6.0); GRBBS (5-2). Olive-sided Flycatcher: last of migration: one June 3, AL (VP). Horned Lark: ACBBS (10, 1, 1, .57, 1.6); one June 3, T/Amity (VP).

Tree Swallow: ACBBS (25, 1, 2, .76, 2.0); GRBBS (3-2); max. 40, 30 July 5, 11, AL (VP); nesting reports: of 13 nests in nest boxes, from 53 eggs, 15 Yo fledged, June 28–July 1, AL (VP); 1 pair attempted 2 nestings in box June 1–22, both predated, and Ad's left area, Blm (DB,LB). Bank Swallow: ACBBS (3, +, 2, 2.4, 0.4). Rough-winged Swallow: ACBBS (4, +, +, .08, 0.9). Barn Swallow: ACBBS (174, 10, 10, 2.1, 18.2); GRBBS (34-4); highs reported: 109 July 25, AL (VP), and 100 Aug 3, W. Almond (DB,LB); from 5 nests, 20 eggs, at least 17 Yo fledged, June 27–July 20, AL (VP). Cliff Swallow: ACBBS (28, 2, 2, 1.4, 0.2); a colony of 16+ active nests with 28 Ad, had at least 1 nest with Yo July 11, success unknown, Lynch Rd, Alf (EB). Purple Martin: GRBBS (2-1); max: 8 June 1–July 31, Blm (DB,LB); 10 July 26, AL (RP,VP); Spring nesting: at two nesting houses: 20 Yo, May 26, Cb L (RK,RhK).

Blue Jay: ACBBS (96, 5, 7, 1.8, 15.1); GRBBS (15-4); from 7 nests 12 Yo fledged June 17–July 4, AL (VP). Common Crow: ACBBS (380, 21, 23, 1.8, 45.3); GRBBS (41-4). Black-capped Chickadee: ACBBS (93, 5, 4, .82, 17.6); GRBBS (24-3); Ad's "feeding at least 6 Yo at suet feeder," July 28–31, Blm (DB,LB); nestings: 1 nest in box, 6 Yo fledged 12, Cb (RK,RhK); 1 nest in Bluebird box from 6 eggs 6 Yo fledged June 10, AL (VP). Tufted Titmouse: ACBBS (1, +, -, -, -); up to 5 June 1–24 and July 1–25, and 3 Yo July 25, Spring Brook (DD). White-breasted Nuthatch: ACBBS (7, +, 1, .47, 1.6); GRBBS (5-2). Red-breasted Nuthatch: one report for the Region: one June 1, ASPk (RS). Brown Creeper: ACBBS (1, +, -, -, -); GRBBS (1-1); one July 20, Hunter's Creek State Pk. (HK,WK). House Wren: ACBBS (139, 8, 9, 2.8, 24.9); GRBBS (20-3); nestings: number Yo unknown from active box June 12–27, Cb (RK,RhK); from 5 eggs 5 Yo fledged from box July 15, Blm (DB,LB); from 14 box-nestings observed, at least 20 Yo fledged June 18–Aug 4, AL (VP); nest with 5 eggs July 30, BOSWR, GI (HM,King). Winter Wren: only one reported, July 14, Holloway Bay, Ont (RA,PA). Carolina Wren: so many as to be almost commonplace: one to two June 1–July 25, Spring Brook (DD); one June 3, Hamburg (RA,PA); 2 Ad 2 Yo out of nest June 17 and 2 Ad 4 Yo out of nest June 21, Stow (RS,Olsen); 2 Ad, 4 Yo out of nest July 7, 14, Barcelona (RS); 2 July 10–31, Lewiston (HK,WK); singles July 12, Prendergast Pt., Chaut L (RS,Olsen), July 21, Chaut (RS), July 24, Alf (EB), and July 31, Stow (RS); also singles Aug 8, Fluvanna and Lakewood as well as Aug 11, Barcelona (RS). Marsh Wren: no reports. Mockingbird: singles: June 2, ASPk (RS *et al*), June 18, INWR (Olsen) and June 24, Youngstown (HK,WK). Gray Catbird: ACBBS (138, 8, 7, .47, 26.0); GRBBS (26-4); several Yo, mid-July

(DB, LB); 9 nestings observed: from 27 eggs, at least 11 Yo fledged June 11–Aug 15, AL (VP).

Brown Thrasher: ACBBS (31, 2, 2, .36, 6.4); GRBBS (5-3). American Robin: ACBBS (860, 48, 58, 7.1, 74.7); GRBBS (95-4); nest reports: 3 spring nests, from 10 eggs, at least 3 Yo in nests, no recheck, May 2–11, Cb (RK, RhK); of 53 nests observed, from min. 140 eggs, at least 72 Yo fledged May 16–Aug 2, AL (VP). Wood Thrush: ACBBS (141, 8, 7, 1.3, 23.3); GRBBS (5-3). Hermit Thrush: ACBBS (6, +, +, -, 1.1). Swainson's Thrush; one reported July 18, Rose Hill Rd., Ont. (HA). Veery ACBBS (27, 2, 2, .46, 5.1); GRBBS (27-4); one nest report: parasitized by Brown-headed Cowbird (Egg removed); from 3 eggs, 2 Yo fledged (possibly a 3rd Yo) July 4, AL (VP). Eastern Bluebird: ACBBS (5, +, 1, .53 0.4); 2 Ad 2 Yo June 24–26, Youngstown (HK, WK); 2 Aug 3, T/Angelica (DB, LB); nesting reports: (spring) nest box: from 5 eggs May 11, 4 Yo fledged, Cb (RK, RhK); of a trail of 27 Bluebirds boxes at Amity Lake, 4 were occupied by Bluebirds, two pairs nesting twice; from 22 eggs, 8 Yo fledged June 5–11. (Max. 4 Ad 8 Yo sighted June 5–27.); Tree Swallows used 12 boxes, Black-capped Chickadees, one, House Wrens, 8, some pairs nesting twice or taking over when other occupants had left, and House Sparrows, 4. (VP). *GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET*: at least 6 pairs, sighted regularly June 1–July 31 with 2 Ad feeding 2 Yo out of nest, July 8, Alf (EB). Cedar Waxwing: ACBBS (54, 3, 5, 1.8, 5.3); GRBBS (51-4); of 8 nests completed (8 more, incomplete) from 26 eggs, at least 15 Yo fledged, June 20–Aug 2, AL (VP). Loggerhead Shrike: no reports. Starlings: ACBBS (661, 37, 20, 9.0, 28.4); GRBBS (21-4); spring nesting: 3 active nests Apr 14 (outcome unknown), Cb (RK, RhK).

VIREOS–WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: ACBBS (1, +, +, -, 0.2). Solitary Vireo: ACBBS (8, +, +, -, 1.3); spring nesting: nest with Ad on May 19, outcome unknown, Alf (EB). Red-eyed Vireo: ACBBS (116, 6, 6, .80, 21.8); GRBBS (25-4). Warbling Vireo: ACBBS (14, 1, 1, .30, 2.7); GRBBS (1-1); 2 Yo being fed near nest July 11, Cb (RK, RhK).

Warblers: Black-and-white: ACBBS (1, +, -, -, 0.2); 1, 2 June 11, 17 and one July 8, 12, 16, AL (VP). Prothonotary: one June 10, INWR (HK, WK). *WORM-EATING*: reported too late for Spring issue: one mist-netted May 17, BgsS (RS). Golden-winged: one June 4, 8, 20, AL (VP). Blue-winged: ACBBS (15, 1, 1, .29, 3.1); GRBBS (2-2); 2 Ad 2 Yo July 15 and 1 Ad 2 Yo (Blue-winged) plus 1 Yo "Brewster's" (Hybrid), Aug 7, AL (VP). "Brewster's" (Hybrid): one June 7, Kiantone (RS); six sightings of one Ad: June 8, 10, 23, 28, July 5, 8, then one Yo appeared (with 1 Ad Blue-winged + 2 Yo Blue-winged) Aug 7, AL (VP). Nashville: ACBBS (3, +, +, .09, 0.7); GRBBS (1-1); one June 9, Scio (VP). Parula: two June 1, 2 (last of migration) ASPk (RS *et al.*). Yellow: ACBBS (93, 5, 6, 1.6, 18.2) GRBBS (28-4); five nests observed: from 17 eggs, 3 Yo fledged, June 1–July 18, AL (VP). Magnolia: ACBBS (2, +, +, -, 0.4). *YELLOW-RUMPED*: at least 3 pairs were breeding in Alfred area, and at one nest discovered: 2 Ad were feeding 2 Yo + 1 Yo Brown-headed Cowbird in nest July 10. On July 17 the Yo Br.-h. Cowbird was gone, presumed successful, but in nest was 1 Yo Yellow-rumped Warbler, dead, plus 1 Br.-h. Cowbird egg, Alf (EB). Black-throated Green: ACBBS (17, 1, 1, .15, 2.7). Cerulean: singles reported June 10, INWR (HK, WK), and June 25, Taylor Hollow (HM, Goodman, Wilcove). Blackburian: ACBBS (4, +, +, .19, 1.4). Chestnut-sided: ACBBS (29, 2, 2, .27, 6.0); GRBBS (8-3); 2 Ad 2 Yo July 12, AL (VP). Bay-breasted: last of migration, a single June 4, Spring Brook (DD). Blackpoll: one June 2, Alf (CK); one June 3, AL (VP); and last of migration: 2 June 6, Spring Brook DD). *PRAIRIE*: One pair was observed regularly during the summer in Alfred area, and finally there appeared 2 Ad feeding 2 Yo out of nest on July 17, 18 (EB); these were photographed July 17 (LB); a half mile from the first pair, a second pair was seen June 8, 14, and

July 7, 18 but no Yo were observed (EB). Ovenbird: ACBBS (24, 1, 2, .36, 4.4). Northern Waterthrush: GRBBS (1-1); one July 20 Hester's Cr. State Pk (HK,WK); two July 25, Spring Brook (DD). *CONNECTICUT*: reported too late for Spring issue: a single mist-netted May 17, observed through 28th, BgsS (RS). Mourning: ACBBS (4, +, +, .11, 0.9). Common Yellowthroat: ACBBS (220, 12, 10, 1.4, 40.4); GRBBS (52-4); one nest report: 2 Ad 2 Yo out of nest July 20, AL (VP). Yellow-breasted Chat: a single observed July 17, Rose Hill Rd, Ont (HA). Wilson's: last of migration: one June 2, Tift Farm Sanct., Bflo (AV,Patterson). Canada: ACBBS (2, +, +, -, 0.4); GRBBS (1-1). American Redstart: ACBBS (6, +, +, .11, 1.1); GRBBS (5-3).

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: House Sparrow: ACBBS (293, 16, 22, 3.8, 15.6); GRBBS (18-3). Bobolink: ACBBS (110, 6, 9, 2.2, 10.4); GRBBS (1-1). Eastern Meadowlark: ACBBS (120, 7, 9, 2.8, 17.3); GRBBS (6-4). Western Meadowlark: one observed June 6, Athol Springs (TB). Red-winged Blackbird: ACBBS (1309, 73, 71, 10.1, 56.2); GRBBS (98-4); nesting reports: one nest: from 5 eggs, Yo out of nest July 21, Cb (RK,RhK); 17 nests observed: from 48 eggs 18 Yo fledged June 12-July 27, AL (VP). Northern Oriole: ACBBS (33, 2, 3, 1.1, 6.7); GRBBS (18-4); of 3 active nests, one was predated, two apparently fledged Yo (number unknown) July 1, AL (VP). Common Grackle: ACBBS (660, 37, 34, 7.6, 29.3); GRBBS (105-4); from 24 nests observed, at least 39 Yo fledged by June 22, AL (VP). Brown-headed Cowbird: ACBBS (38, 2, 5, 2.6, 7.6); GRBBS (13-4). Scarlet Tanager: ACBBS (26, 1, 2, .42, 5.6); GRBBS (3-2). Cardinal: ACBBS (53, 3, 4, 1.0, 10.0); GRBBS (7-3); 3 nests observed, from 7 eggs 4 Yo fledged June 9-Aug 2, AL (VP). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: ACBBS (56, 3, 3, .92, 11.8); GRBBS (8-3); 3 nests observed, from 8 eggs 6 Yo fledged June 28-July 9, AL (VP); migrants: one Aug 5, 6 Jms (RS). Indigo Bunting: ACBBS (139, 8, 6, 1.4, 25.1); GRBBS (20-4). Purple Finch: ACBBS (13, 1, 1, .39, 2.9); GRBBS (2-2); max 6 reported irregularly through summer period (mob). American Goldfinch: ACBBS (154, 9, 6, 1.7, 18.7); GRBBS (43-4); of 20 nests discovered, 9 were deserted or predated and 11 were incomplete by end of summer period with no Yo, total eggs in nests, 40 Aug 14, AL (VP). Red Crossbill: 5, 15 reported June 2, ASPk (RS *et al*); outside the *BOS Date Guide*: 10-15 June 6, Harris Hill, T/Clarence (RW) and one July 14, Barcelona (RS).

Rufous-sided Towhee: ACBBS (97, 5, 8, 1.3, 17.6); GRBBS (11-3); two nests, from 7 eggs, fledged at least 3 Yo, June 18-July 9, AL (VP). Savannah Sparrow: ACBBS (76, 4, 5, .41, 9.6); GRBBS (1-1). Grasshopper Sparrow: ACBBS (5, +, +, .09, 0.9); two June 5, Eaast Oak Hill Rd., Frewsburg (RS); one July 8, Alf (CK). Henslow's Sparrow: ACBBS (1, +, +, -, 0.2); 3 June 5, East Oak Hill Rd., Frewsburg (RS); Alfred area: 3, 2, 1 July 8, 21, 31 (CK) and max. 3 pairs all summer (EB). Vesper Sparrow: ACBBS (8, 1, 1, .64, 1.3); GRBBS (1-1). Dark-eyed Junco: ACBBS (13, 1, 1, .26, 2.2). Chipping Sparrow: ACBBS (217, 12, 13, 3.0, 32.2); GRBBS (8-3); of 5 nests observed, from 19 eggs at least 6 Yo fledged, June 26-July 20, AL (VP). Field Sparrow: ACBBS (164, 9, 10, .93, 30.2); GRBBS (10-3); of 4 nests observed, from 13 eggs, at least 8 Yo fledged, June 20-Aug 7, AL (VP). **WHITE-THROATED SPARROW:** ACBBS (2, +, +, .07, 0.43); a nest was discovered again this year in the Alfred area with 4 eggs, June 1; on June 17 1 Ad was feeding Yo in nest which was found empty, intact on July 15 (EB); a total of 4 pairs of Ad's spent the summer here (Alf) (ED,DB,LB). **LINCOLN'S SPARROW:** over a month beyond dates, *BOS Date Guide*: 4 reported July 2, in Ont. section of our Region (RA, Clark). Swamp Sparrow: ACBBS (16, 1, 1, .42, 2.7); GRBBS (10-4). Song Sparrow: ACBBS (519, 29, 34, 3.3, 64); GRBBS (143-4); 6 nests observed: from 14 eggs, at least 4 Yo fledged June 4-July 25, AL (VP).

Fall reports due Dec. 3. Winter reports due Apr. 3.

Amity Lake, Belmont, New York 14813

ADDENDUM: Received by Region 1 Editor too late for previous issues are the following excellent reports of counts taken under direction of the Buffalo Ornithological Society. Both include the already published compilation for the same dates from the Allegany County Bird Club.

—REPORT 1—

BIRD CENSUS, taken April 7, 1974, during the winter period and compiled by Gail Seamans.

Temperatures in the 50°'s early in the day raised hopes for fine birding with good tallies of migrants. However, violent winds in late morning, with heavy rain changing to snow as the cold front moved in, brought most workers out of the field and no doubt account for the lower than average numbers of migrants reported by the over 250 participating observers. The most abundant species was Common Grackle: 45,600. Total species was 124 and total individuals, 173,214.

"NS" following a species indicates a New Species for the year.

Locations are given in parentheses where a species was sighted in 3 or less areas.

LOON-DUCKS: Common Loon 39. Horned Grebe 159. Pied-billed Grebe 90. Great Blue Heron 98. Black-crowned Night Heron, NS, 5 (Thorold, Ont.). Whistling Swan 222. Canada Goose 13,736. Mallard 648. Black Duck 206. Gadwall 28. Pintail 224. Green-winged Teal 142. Blue-winged Teal 494. American Wigeon 104. Northern Shoveler 55. Wood Duck 76. Redhead 237. Ring-necked Duck 423. Canvasback 1225. Greater Scaup 4956. Lesser Scaup 3130. Common Goldeneye 287. Bufflehead 1044. Oldsquaw 311. King Eider 2 (Buffalo). White-winged Scoter 16. Ruddy Duck 71. Hooded Merganser 174. Common Merganser 123. Red-breasted Merganser 287.

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture 37. Sharp-shinned Hawk 11. Cooper's Hawk 13. Red-tailed Hawk 206. Red-shouldered Hawk 20. Rough-legged Hawk 3 (Hamburg, Bolivar). Marsh Hawk 18. American Kestrel 240. Ruffed Grouse 16. Ring-necked Pheasant 131. Turkey 51. American Coot 266. Killdeer 629. American Woodcock 27. Common Snipe 75. Greater Yellowlegs 6. Pectoral Sandpiper 15 (Fillmore, Sherman).

Glaucous Gull 1 (Grand Island). Iceland Gull 1 (Wilson). Great Black-backed Gull 13 (Oak Orchard, Grand Island, Buffalo). Herring Gull 2136. Ring-billed Gull 3433. Bonaparte's Gull 5459. Little Gull 3 (Wilson). Common Tern, NS, 1 (Dunkirk). Rock Dove 1026. Mourning Dove 699. Screech Owl 5 (Alfred). Great Horned Owl 10. Short-eared Owl 7 (Lancaster).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLINGS: Belted Kingfisher 78. Common (Yel.-sh.) Flicker 159. Pileated Woodpecker 13. Red-bellied Woodpecker 14 (Batavia, Fillmore, Sherman). Red-headed Woodpecker 1 (Alfred). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 3 (Batavia, Sherman, Cuba Lake). Hairy Woodpecker 190. Downy Woodpecker 363. Eastern Phoebe 124. Horned Lark: *E.a. alpestris* 7 (Grand Island, Lancaster), *E.a. praticola* 230. Tree Swallows 392. Barn Swallow, NS, 1 (Lowbanks, Ont.). Purple Martin 6 (Frewsburg, Allegany). Blue Jay 882. Common Crow 2832.

Black-capped Chickadee 1251. Tufted Titmouse 26. White-breasted Nuthatch 325. Red-breasted Nuthatch 24. Brown Creeper 42. Winter Wren 17. Carolina Wren 8. Mockingbird 2 (Wilson). Gray Catbird, NS, 1 (Hamburg). Brown Thrasher, NS, 2 (Hamburg, Cuba Lake). American Robin 10,516. Hermit Thrush 3 (Port Maitland, Ont., Cuba Lake, Alfred). Eastern Bluebird 38. Golden-crowned Kinglet 280. Ruby-crowned Kinglet 4 (Lowbanks, Ont. Hamburg). Water Pipit 29. Cedar Waxwing 85. Northern Shrike 3 (Oak Orchard, Fillmore, Sherman). Loggerhead Shrike 2 (Oak Orchard). Starling 24,472.

VIREOS-SPARROWS: Yellow-rumped Warbler 2 (Bolivar, Alfred). House Sparrow 2840. Eastern Meadowlark 349. Red-winged Blackbird 19,539. Rusty Blackbird 103. Common Grackle 45,600. Brown-headed Cowbird 4,399. Cardinal 605.

Evening Grosbeak 1411. Purple Finch 95. Common Redpoll 57. Pine Siskin 15. American Goldfinch 562. Red Crossbill 5 (Hamburg). White-winged Crossbill 15. Rufous-sided Towhee 11. Savannah Sparrow 102. Vesper Sparrow 72. Dark-eyed Junco 6,094. Tree Sparrow 2317. Chipping Sparrow 100. Field Sparrow 34. White-crowned Sparrow 21. White-throated Sparrow 110. Fox Sparrow 50. Swamp Sparrow 23. Song Sparrow 2855. Snow Bunting 111 (Cuba Lake Alfred).

-REPORT 2-

BIRD CENSUS, taken May 18 and 19, 1974, during the spring period and compiled by Walter Klabunde and Allen Valentine. For this first two-day coverage on any Buffalo Ornithological Society count, no area was duplicated.

Weather was "perfect" for the 18th, but the northern section turned windy and cooler the 19th. With 248 workers taking part, "a median number for the past ten years", 201 species plus 1 hybrid were reported (a normal number). Total individuals was 73,480, a low figure "due to the low numbers of robins, starlings, redwings and grackles together with swallows and gulls which comprise half of the total individuals."

Apparently last winter's survival rate was higher than usual for the Turkey, Chimney Swift and Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Unexpected record numbers of the Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks as well as the American Kestrel were reported in addition to unprecedented counts for the House, Winter and Carolina Wrens. Cardinals continued their steady annual increase. Despite possible effects of pesticides, the total Warbler count was above normal.

The Black Duck and Common Tern were lowest ever, holding to the trend of several years. "Semipalmated Plovers failed to be recorded for the second time in all May counts since 1936. Ducks, shorebirds and gulls generally were low, probably reflecting the effect of high lake levels creating poor feeding and/or nesting possibilities."

In listing the census below, a letter from the following table is used after each species to indicate comparison with former counts. The number in parentheses is total species in that category:

- (H+) = an all time high. (21)
- (H) = highest in the past ten years. (21)
- (M+) = above normal. (46)
- (M) = normal. (69)
- (M-) = below normal. (35)
- (L) = lowest for the past ten years (7).
- (L-) = all time low. (3)

Locations are given in parentheses where a species was sighted in one or two areas only.

LOONS-DUCKS. Common Loon 8 (L-). Horned Grebe 1 (L-)(Cherry Creek). Pied-billed Grebe 13(M). Great Blue Heron 199(M+). Green Heron 107 (M+) *LITTLE BLUE HERON* 1(H) (Oak Orchard). *CATTLE EGRET* 3(H+) (Frewsburg). Black-crowned Night Heron 4(M). Least Bittern 5(M+). American Bittern 14(M). *MUTE SWAN* 4(H) (Cherry Creek). Whistling Swan 1(M) (Hamburg). Canada Goose 296(H). Mallard 329(M). Black Duck 17(L-). Pintail 2(M-) (Port Maitland, Ont., Fort Erie, Ont.). Green-winged Teal 10(M). Blue-winged Teal 74(M-). American Wigeon 3(M-)(Oak Orchard, Port Maitland, Ont.). Northern Shoveler 8(M+)(Akron). Wood Duck 76(M). Canvasback 1(M) (Lowbanks, Ont.). Greater Scaup 50(M). Lesser Scaup 90(M+). Common Goldeneye 1(M-)(Fort Erie, Ont.). Bufflehead 80(M+). Oldsquaw 4(M)(Fort Erie, Ont., Allegany State Park). Surf Scoter 15(H+)(Fort Erie, Ont.). Ruddy Duck 3(M). Hooded Merganser 19(H+). Common Merganser 63(M+). Red-breasted Merganser 75(M).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture 67(H+). Sharp-shinned Hawk 4(M). Cooper's Hawk 8(M). Red-tailed Hawk 200(H+). Red-shouldered Hawk 54(H+). Broad-winged Hawk 24(M+). Rough-legged Hawk 1(M)(Hamburg). Marsh Hawk 31(H). Osprey 4(M). American Kestrel 91(H+). Ruffed Grouse 41(M). Ring-necked Pheasant 192(M). Turkey 41(H+). Virginia Rail 1(M-)(Lowbanks, Ont.). Sora 8(M). Common Gallinule 30(M+). American Coot 36(M).

Killdeer 543(M). Black-bellied Plover 1(M-)(Cherry Creek). Ruddy Turnstone 35(M-). American Woodcock 24(M-). Common Snipe 41(M+). Upland Sandpiper 11(M). Spotted Sandpiper 118(M-). Solitary Sandpiper 14(M). Greater Yellowlegs 4(M-). Lesser Yellowlegs 13(M+). Pectoral Sandpiper 1(M-)(Wilson). Least Sandpiper 4(L). Dunlin 67(M-). Short-billed Dowitcher 9(M). Semipalmated Sandpiper 2(M-) Fort Erie Ont.).

Great Black-backed Gull 2(M)(Fort Erie, Ont.). Herring Gull 106(L). Ring-billed Gull 1304(M-). Bonaparte's Gull 39(M-). Common Tern 208(L-). Caspian Tern 1(M)(Lowbanks, Ont.). Black Tern 38(M-). Rock Dove 902(M+). Mourning Dove 797(M+). Yellow-billed Cuckoo 16(H). Black-billed Cuckoo 42(H). Screech Owl 9(H). Great Horned Owl 12(M). Barred Owl 14(M+). Long-eared Owl 3(H)(Java, Cherry Creek).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: Whip-poor-will 3(M). Common Nighthawk 24(M+). Chimney Swift 1300(H+). Ruby-throated Hummingbird 134(H+). Belted Kingfisher 112(M). Common (Yel.-sh.) Flicker 450(M+). Pileated Woodpecker 15(M). Red-bellied Woodpecker 16(H+). Red-headed Woodpecker 68(M+). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 25(M). Hairy Woodpecker 152(M+). Downy Woodpecker 304(M). Eastern Kingbird 390(M). Great Crested Flycatcher 199(H). Eastern Phoebe 318(M). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher 2(M)(Batavia, Cherry Creek). Traill's (undifferentiated) Flycatcher 15(M+). Alder Flycatcher 4(Cherry Creek). Willow Flycatcher 15(Cherry Creek). Least Flycatcher 184(M). Eastern Wood Pewee 57(M). Olive-sided Flycatcher 6(H+). Horned Lark: *E.a. praticola* 110(L). Tree Swallow 637(L). Bank Swallow 611(M-). Rough-winged Swallow 143(M-). Barn Swallow 1966(M-). Cliff Swallow 110(M). Purple Martin 886(M-). Blue Jay 1397(M+). Common Crow 1445(M). Black-capped Chickadee 867(M+). Tufted Titmouse 16(M+). White-breasted Nuthatch 264(H+). Red-breasted Nuthatch 13(M). Brown Creeper 32(M+).

House Wren 556(H+). Winter Wren 18(H+). Carolina Wren 12(H+). Long-billed Marsh Wren 3(M-)(Batavia, Cherry Creek). Mockingbird 5(M). Gray Catbird 810(M). Brown Thrasher 158(M-). American Robin 5056(L). Wood Thrush 438(M). Hermit Thrush 42(H+). Swainson's Thrush 117(H). Gray-cheeked Thrush 14(M+). Veery 137(M). Eastern Bluebird 85(M). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 27(H+). Golden-crowned Kinglet 22(M+). Ruby-crowned Kinglet 52(M). Water Pipit 11(M). Cedar Waxwing 168(M). Starling 6,055(M-).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo 23(M+). Solitary Vireo 31(H+). Red-eyed Vireo 298(M+). Philadelphia Vireo 8(M). Warbling Vireo 104(M). Black-and-white Warbler 51(M+). Prothonotary Warbler 2(M)(Oak Orchard). Golden-winged Warbler 11(M). Blue-winged Warbler 93(M). "Brewster's" Warbler (hybrid) 2(M+)(Cherry Creek, Alfred). Tennessee Warbler 67(M+). Orange-crowned Warbler 3(M). Nashville Warbler 102(M+). Parula Warbler 8(M). Yellow Warbler 1547(M). Magnolia Warbler 236(H). Cape May Warbler 119(H). Black-throated Blue Warbler 72(M+). Yellow-rumped Warbler 380(M+). Black-throated Green Warbler 206(H). Cerulean Warbler 11(M). Blackburnian Warbler 172(M+). Chestnut-sided Warbler 269(M+). Baybreasted Warbler 113(H). Blackpoll Warbler 33(M+). Prairie Warbler 2(H)(Cuba Lake). Palm Warbler 16(M+). Ovenbird 192(M+). Northern Waterthrush 37(H). Louisiana Waterthrush 11(H). Connecticut Warbler 1(H)(Frewsburg). Mourning Warbler 22(M+). Common Yellowthroat 502(M). Yellow-breasted Chat 3(M). Hooded Warbler 31

(H). Wilson's Warbler 54(M+). Canada Warbler 95(M+). American Redstart 288(M+).

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: House Sparrow 3635(M). Bobolink 906(M-). Eastern Meadowlark 623(L). Red-winged Blackbird 9688(M-). Orchard Oriole 1(M) (Lowbanks, Ont.). Northern Oriole 862(M-). Rusty Blackbird 48(M). Common Grackle 6954(M-). Brown-headed Cowbird 1932(M). Scarlet Tanager 196(M+). Cardinal 687(H+). Rose-breasted Grosbeak 546(M+). Indigo Bunting 255(H). Evening Grosbeak 58(M). Purple Finch 208(M+). Pine Siskin 236(M+). American Goldfinch 3399(M). White-winged Crossbill 6(H).

Rufous-sided Towhee 494(M-). Savannah Sparrow 278(M). Grasshopper Sparrow 8(M). Henslow's Sparrow 4(L-). Vesper Sparrow 76(M-). Dark-eyed Junco 120(M). Chipping Sparrow 953(M). Field Sparrow 444(M). White-crowned Sparrow 182(M-). White-throated Sparrow 173(M). Lincoln's Sparrow 4(M). Swamp Sparrow 140(M-). Song Sparrow 2331(M-).

REGION 2 — GENESSEE

RICHARD T. O'HARA

Summer has been a pleasant season in Rochester this year although weather patterns have seemed somewhat erratic. Precipitation has remained well above normal and almost 8 inches ahead of last year in spite of a 3 week drought in mid-July. We have had only a few days above 90° and there have been many pleasant, sunny days with much lower temperatures. Marshes and lakes remain filled to overflowing, including Lake Ontario.

Spring migration continued well into early June. When some noteworthy reports of herons, shorebirds, hawks and flycatchers came from the lakeshore and elsewhere. More field work than usual took place during the nesting season especially in the Bristol Hills region south of Rochester. This continues a recent trend and has produced some of the most interesting reports noted below.

Returning shorebirds occurred in very early July and the variety of species has been quite good although numbers are generally small. Suitable habitat is limited again due to high water so far this year. Such areas as Irondequoit Bay, the West spit at Braddocks Bay and Shore Acres have all been non-productive. Passerines have shown very little movement to date (Aug. 15th) although the usual swallows and early warblers i.e., Yellow, Northern Waterthrush, have been noted on the west lakeshore since August 1st.

Most nesting birds appear to have done well although some species were present in very reduced numbers as noted below — (see Nighthawk, Redstart, Vesper Sparrow).

Positive trends are noted for most Herons, Mallards and some other puddle ducks, accipiters (slight) Common Snipe, Mourning Dove, Carolina Wren, and Kingfisher.

Negative tendencies involve Ring-necked Pheasants, (although there are some reports of good breeding success) Common Tern, Nighthawk, Redstart, Hooded Warbler (except at Letchworth Park) and Vesper Sparrow.

Rarities: Snowy Egret, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Goshawk (nesting) Whimbrel, Willet, Wilson's Phalarope. Long-eared Owl (nesting), Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Acadian Flycatcher, Prothonotory Warbler, Orchard Oriole, Red Crossbill, Tree Sparrow.

OBSERVERS: BA—Beatrice Anderson; MC—Mike Carlson; JC—Julie Claffey; J&JC—Jack and Joyce Connor; RF—Robert Folker; NH—Norman Henderson; B&AK—Bea and Al Kemnitz; WL—Walter Listman; AM—Al Maley; J&TM—Joe and Thelma McKett; BM—Barbara Molyneaux; L&NM—Laura and Neil Moon; RO—Richard O'Hara; BO—Bernard Olin; GP—Glenn Perrigo; NF—Neil Prosser; RR—Ruth

Reid; J&JS—Jeanne and Sharon Skelly; ST—Sarah Talpey; JT—Joseph Taylor; TT—Thomas Tetlow.

LOCATIONS: BB—Braddocks Bay; HL—Honeoye Lake; IC—Island Cottage; RM—Rose's Marsh; WL—West Lakeshore.

LOONS—DUCKS: A Common Loon was flying low over Canandaigua Lake on July 7 (RO). Pied-billed Grebe was noted widely and apparently has increased as a local breeder with the higher water levels. An immature Double-crested Cormorant was seen June 6 at Oak Orchard (BM&RR).

Heron's really seem to be prospering, especially at RM and BB. Cattle Egrets bred here for the first time. (5 nests) TT *et al.* The degree of success is not known. A single Great Egret was noted all summer in the same area by mob. A Snowy Egret was at Summerville on Aug. 7 (MC) and what may have been the same bird was at Manitou on Aug. 12. Both immature and adult Yellow-crowned Night Herons were noted from July 6 to August 7 at RM (J&SS *et. al.*) as well as other nearby marshes. There is a possibility of breeding but no positive evidence. Black-crowned Night Herons were present in good numbers all summer and were also nesting at RM. The best count was 36. (JS) Both American Bittern and Least Bittern were noted regularly and appear to be increasing. Glossy Ibis—no reports.

A few Canada Geese appeared at BB during July (WL) Mallards are really booming all along the Lakeshore. While Blue-winged Teal and Wood Ducks are doing well too, Black Ducks do not seem to be included in the prosperity. Both Gadwall and American Wigeon were present at RM July (TT). Green-winged Teal was also reported throughout the summer and a single Ring-necked Duck was seen in Kendall on 7/21 (WCL).

HAWKS—OWLS: The region's first Goshawk nest produced 2 young near HL (GP *et. al.*). A Cooper's Hawk was at Mendon Ponds on 6/21 & 6/22 (ST) and an immature appeared in the same place on July 17 & 18. This may well be the first evidence of breeding in recent years. Another Cooper's Hawk was seen in Fairport 7/14. (TT). Broad-winged Hawks were nesting at Letchworth Park on 6/13, 2 nests (GP). Several observers also noted this bird in the HL region but no nest was found. An adult Bald Eagle was flying along the lakeshore on June 4 (JC *et. al.*). Single Ospreys were seen on June 16 (J&JC) and July 26 (NH) at BB. Marsh Hawks appeared to be breeding at least 2 places on the WL Marshes. (mob).

An adult Ruffed Grouse with 10 young was noted on June 17 near HL (GP). A single Grouse was at Mendon Ponds June 15 (ST): this is an area where this bird has seldom been reported in recent years.

A pair of Virginia Rails had 2 young at Buck Pond 7/16 (NP). This bird and the Sora were not too often noted this summer but Gallinules seem to be doing as well as usual.

Among the shorebirds 21 species were noted. This includes every species which had been seen during the spring flight except Black-bellied Plover. The only fall birds which had not been seen in the spring flight were Red Knot and Sanderling. Obviously, therefore, few really unusual species were recorded in either flight so far. Among regular species noted only in reduced numbers this summer are Semipalmated Plover, Pectoral Sandpiper, Dowitcher and Stilt Sandpiper. Reduced habitat no doubt accounts for most of this situation. Nevertheless there have been a few interesting records including 2 Whimbrel at Manitou, July 24, (RF *et. al.*) and a good count of 8 Solitary Sandpipers in one place on 7/19 (MC).

Common Snipe appear to be increasing as a breeding bird in this region. An early Red Knot appeared at Summerville on 7/24 in company with an unusually large group of 125 Sanderlings and 5 Ruddy Turnstones (R&SO *et. al.*). A very early Wilson Phalarope was near Geneseo on July 1 (RO). The last spring date for this species was June 5 in company with the last White-rumped Sandpiper of the spring

WL (J&TH et. al.). Of all shore birds the best record of the fall to date is a Willet at the east spit of BB on Aug. 13 (NH&RL).

Gulls have been very ordinary this summer. Most notable perhaps has been the relative scarcity of Bonaparte's Gulls although counts of 100 were made on July 30 (MC), and Aug. 5 (NH). Terns, especially Common Tern, have also been rather scarce. Black Tern numbers have been only fair. The best count of Caspian Tern was 15 on Aug. 10, mostly at Summerville (R&SO). The highest number of Common Tern to date is a very sad 8! None at all were reported in June or early July.

Mourning Doves are continuing to increase and seem to have done well again this year. The usual small number of reports came in for both Cuckoos. Barn Owl is unreported to date. Barred Owl was reported only from Honeoye Lake area. Long-eared Owl nested near Brockport (4 young on the 16th of June (AM). There are only a very few other records of breeding here.

COATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: Whip-poor-will was reported only from its usual breeding station in Bergen Swamp. Nighthawks seem to be reduced to less than 25% of former numbers in the city of Rochester; they are absent entirely from many parts of the city where they could formerly be seen every evening. Chimney Swifts may also be declining as old chimneys go down and new buildings are heated in more modern ways. Hummingbirds and Kingfishers were both well reported this summer.

Woodpeckers showed no essential changes although no reports of breeding sap-suckers were received this year while Pileated, Red-bellied and Red-headed Woodpeckers were all noted regularly in small numbers in normal areas.

It was a good summer for flycatcher records. An unusual report of a Kingbird nest on the ground came in from Honeoye Falls; it failed (BA). We are still learning about the pattern of distribution of Willow and Alder Flycatchers; it appears the former is dominant along the lakeshore while the latter is the more common inland especially at higher elevations. Early June showed many migrants still passing. An Acadian Flycatcher was seen on the 3rd and 7th at IC and an Olive-sided Flycatcher also on the 3rd was in the same place (MC). Another Olive-sided Flycatcher was noted in the same place the next day. (JC&NH). Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were well reported in early June — maximum 4 on June 3 (JS&MC) — mostly from the WL. Most unusual was a report of a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher on July 30 at RM (MC). It is not known to breed in this Region.

Swallows appear to have had a successful breeding year including the Purple Martins which had many young out in late July and early August. The best concentration of Bank Swallows noted was 950 on July 30 WL (MC et. al.).

A Brown Creeper was seen in Webster on July 30 (B&AK). This is not a normal breeding location. Winter Wren was reported from a new area, Cumming Natue Center near HL on July 21. (L&NM). A Short-billed Marsh Wren was present in Perinton on June 4 (JF&LM).

Mockingbirds apparently bred on Jane's Rd. in Greece this year (mob.); this is a new location for this species. Hermit Thrushes were singing regularly at the Harriet Hollister Spencer State Recreation Area south of HL (mob). Bluebirds seemed almost common at Seneca Point on Canandaigua Lake — several nesting boxes had pairs in early July (RO); an adult male was on another box on WL where the bird has been absent as a breeder for many years, July 24 (RF et. al.). Golden-crowned Kinglets were noted regularly at HL (max. 3) (J&JC); this is the nearest to Rochester this species is known to be present and probably nesting. Loggerhead Shrike was unreported during this season.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: These species were well reported from their usual nesting areas but there were no very unusual records either for location or numbers. Solitary Vireo was evidently breeding at HL at about 1,500 ft. elevation (J&JC et. al.)

Prothonotary Warbler was noted at RM 6/16 (AM); this is a possible nesting

area. Some species seemed less common than usual at least in certain locations. Fewer Golden-winged Warblers were noted at Powder Mill Park and at Leroy while the Blue-winged Warblers may be spreading in the high country south of Rochester where it seems to be present at higher elevations than previously noted (JT). Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, and Blackburnian Warblers were particularly well reported from HL by mob. A Cerulean Warbler at IC on 7/11 was unusual for the location (MC). Hooded Warblers were reported only from Letchworth Park where 5 birds were present on June 13 (AM) and their usual station at Pellet Road in Webster; many previous breeding areas are presently abandoned. At least 3 Yellow-breasted Chats were at the usual Leroy station on July 1st (R&SC) Redstarts seemed sharply down almost everywhere; the highest report for any June day was only 51; many reports contained only 1 or 2 and sometimes none. Observers are urged to give numbers rather than just a check mark so that trends for all species can be reported accurately.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Most species in this group were reported in normal numbers and expected locations. The Orchard Orioles must have raised more than one brood at Point Breeze this year where 7 young were reported in late summer (WL). House Finches have not been reported since May and apparently did not breed in this region. Pine Siskins on the contrary were reported present all during June in Fairport and may have bred (BO). Two male Red Crossbills were seen and one heard singing on July 11 at Payne Beach (MC). this lakeshore area is not a suitable breeding location and the record is abnormal.

In some areas the short-tailed Sparrows, i.e. Savannah, Grasshopper and Henslow's still seem scarce but in other places they seem to be recovering from recent low numbers. Probably these species are always shifting in abundance as habitat changes dictate. Vesper Sparrow seemed to be especially down in numbers to many local observers. Dark-eyed Junco was frequently reported this summer from HL (mob). An extremely late Tree Sparrow was well observed near Scottsville on June 3rd. This is the latest report ever for this northern visitor (J&SS).

265 Carling Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14610

REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

W. E. BENNING

The summer was a little cooler and a little wetter than usual with no marked extremes.

On the 25 mile Fish and Wildlife Breeding Bird Surveys the following significant changes were noted. There were increases on the Trumansburg survey for Tree Swallow, Blue Jay, Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, American Goldfinch and Grasshopper Sparrow while decreases occurred in Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Wood Pewee, Indigo Bunting, Rufous-sided Towhee and Savannah, Field and Song Sparrows. The Rushville count showed increases in Wood Duck, Horned Lark, Starling and Common Grackle with decreases in Ring-necked Pheasant, Barn Swallow, Common Crow and Brown Thrasher. On the Branchport run the species showing a gain were Black-capped Chickadee, Starling, Red-eyed Vireo, Redwinged Blackbird, Cardinal, Indigo Bunting and Henslow's Sparrow. Decreases were found for Bank Swallow, Common Crow, American Robin and Common Yellowthroat. Increases on the Romulus survey included Red-tailed Hawk, Common Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Wood Thrush and Vesper Sparrow. Species showing decreases were Ring-necked Pheasant, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Northern (Baltimore) Oriole and Indigo Bunting.

As expected breeding populations of ducks and marsh breeding birds continue

low at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. It undoubtedly will take several years to bring them back to the pre-1972 levels prevailing before "Agnes" flooded the area. With a goodly amount of suitable habitat available all summer there was good shorebirding at Montezuma.

The ornithological high spot of the period for the northern part of the Region occurred on the first weekend in July when 2 Ruffs in breeding plumage and 2 Reeves were seen by many people at the Waterloo dump.

The first TV tower kill of the season occurred at Elmira on Aug 15 with a Northern Waterthrush and a Chestnut-sided Warbler the victims.

Rarities, in addition to the Ruff, included American Avocet, Raven, Hooded Warbler and the two hybrid warblers, Brewster's and Lawrence's.

Abbreviations: BBS—Fish and Wildlife Breeding Bird Survey (preceded by B for Branchport, R for Rushville or T for Trumansburg); CO—County; ffd—first fall date; lsd—last spring date; JP—Junius Ponds; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; SAD—Seneca Army Depot; Schy—Schuyler WD—Waterloo dump.

Contributors and area compilers: JB—Jack Brubaker (Watkins); WEB—Walter E. Benning; FG—Frank Guthrie (Keuka); RG—Robert Gustafson (MNWR); WH—Wilfred Howell; MJ—Morgan Jones (SAD); RSJ—Richard and Sally Jorgensen; EK—Elaine Kibbeg (Ithaca); LOSS—Laboratory of Ornithology Summer Seminar; LP—Louise Proskine; SHS—Sally H. Spofford; JW—Jeffrey Walters; MW—Mary Welles (Elmira).

LOONS—DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebe: 30 MNWR (RG) low. Great Blue Heron: normal numbers at MNWR and elsewhere. Green Heron. 40 MNWR (RG) good; also good at SAD. Great Egret: up to 3 present at MNWR all summer. Black-crowned Night Heron: very low at MNWR with only 6 reported; no other reports in the Region. Least Bittern; 2 MNWR (RG); pair fledged 2 young SAD (MJ). American Bittern: 20 MNWR (RG).

Canada Goose: resident flock at MNWR had only fair breeding success; 2 summered at Cayuta Lake (JB). Ducks: Mallard, Wood Duck and Hooded Merganser had good nesting success at MNWR. All other species normally nesting there had only fair success. Mallards and Wood Ducks did well at Watkins Marsh. At Elmira there were numerous young Mallards and Blacks but Wood Ducks and Blue-winged Teal were fewer in numbers. The following table shows the waterfowl population at MNWR (RG) together with 1973 figures in parenthesis.

Mallard	1300 (750)	American Wigeon	20 (80)
Black	300 (400)	Northern Shoveler	35 (125)
Gadwall	225 (450)	Wood Duck	550 (300)
Pintail	20 (25)	Ruddy Duck	6 (15)
Green-winged Teal	175 (300)	Hooded Merganser	50 (40)
Blue-winged Teal	250 (350)		

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture. 5 MNWR (RG); scattered reports from southern Schy Co. Goshawk: 1 Jun 16 Switzer Hill Rd, Schy Co (JB); a nest south of Ithaca fledged 2 young (LOSS). Red-tailed Hawk: apparently doing well everywhere; 3 nests at SAD fledged a total of 8 young (MJ). Red-shouldered Hawk: JB reports 1 near Monterey Schy Co Jun 15 and 1 seen regularly all summer 1 mile south of Watkins Glen; 1 Jun 8 JP (WEB). Broad-winged Hawk: "many reports in many locations" Schy Co (JB). Bald Eagle: adult seen at MNWR thruout the period. Marsh Hawk: 2 MNWR (RG); 1 on RBBS. Kestrel: good breeding success (LOSS). Ring-necked Pheasant; down on the BBCs. Turkey: reports at LOSS indicate an increase in numbers. Virginia Rail: 40 MNWR (RG). Sora: 35 MNWR (RG). Common Gallinule; 4 MNWR (RG) very low; increasing numbers at WD; fewer than 1973 at Watkins Marsh; 4 pairs bred at SAD (MJ). American Coot: only 40 at MNWR against 250 last year (RG).

Semipalmated Plover. lsd June 1 WD; ffd Jul 7 WD; max 8 Aug 8 MNWR (RSJ). Killdeer: max 70 MNWR (RG). Golden Plover: ffd 1 Aug 10 WD (WEB). Common Snipe: max 30 MNWR (RG). Upland Sandpiper: D. Kibbe found a pair in June on Cuddeback Rd on the east side of Cayuga Lake near Millikin Station; 1 Jun 1 WD (WEB); 2 young seen at Etna (SHS). Spotted Sandpiper: max 20 MNWR. Greater Yellowlegs: lsd 4 Jun 3 MNWR; max 20 Aug 9 MNWR. Lesser Yellowlegs: ffd 2 Jun 29 at MNWR and 10 Jul 7 at WD; max 55 Aug 4 and 15 MNWR. Pectoral Sandpiper: max 18 Aug 11 WD. Least Sandpiper: ffd Jul 6 at WD and Jul 25 at Elmira; max 15 Jul 7 WD. Short-billed Dowitcher: max 16 Aug 2 MNWR. Stilt Sandpiper. max 54 Aug 5 MNWR. Semipalmated Sandpiper: lsd 25 at Elmira (WH) and 23 at WD both on Jun 1; max 100 estimated Aug 1 MNWR. RUFF: a male in breeding plumage at WD on Jul 6 and 2 males in breeding plumage at the same place Jul 7 (WEB et al); on Jul 7 a group from Rochester (W.Lloyd, M. Sunderlin et al) found 2 females in addition to the 2 males. AMERICAN AVOCET: 1 Jun 20 MNWR (Gary Smith). Wilson's Phalarope: lsd 1 Jun 4 MNWR; 1 Aug 2 MNWR (WEB). Northern Phalarope: 5 Aug 10 WD (RSJ).

Bonaparte's Gull: 2 Aug 1 Watkins Glen (JB). Common Tern: 4 Aug 8 MNWR (RSJ); singles Jun 26 and Aug 10 Elmira (WH). Black Tern: Mar 25 MNWR very low (RG). Caspian Tern: 2 Aug 8 (RSJ); 1 Aug 14 Watkins Glen (JB). Mourning Dove: continuing to do well everywhere. Cuckoos: very few reports; only favorable report was from SAD where MJ reported Black-billed as "fairly common." Barn Owl: 5 young fledged in old silo near Fayette (Scott Sampson fide MJ). Screech Owl: D. Kibbe had 12 respond to a tape recording in a 900 acre area near Millikin Station; 6 at MNWR (RG). Great Horned Owl: 14 MNWR (RG).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: "very numerous" at Elmira first week of Aug but decreasing thereafter (MW). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: few reports all indicating a general scarcity. Woodpeckers: 3 species, Red-bellied, Hairy and Downy brought young to the editor's feeder. Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 noted for the first time on TBBS; seen near Clifton Springs thruout summer (JW); 2 successful nests at Dryden (P Kelsey fide D McIlroy); reported down in general. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: nested on Stasche's property in Caton (MW); did not return to Etna this summer (SHS). Eastern Kingbird: down in MNWR area (WEB); "numerous" in Keuka area (FG). Great Crested Flycatcher: way down on TBBS but reported up at LOSS. Eastern Phoebe: Small decline on the BBSs but as SAD 37 pairs making 71 nesting attempts raised 156 young from 250 eggs compared to 28 pairs, 41 attempts and 129 young from 159 eggs in 1973 (MJ). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 banded Jul 28 Penn Yan (M Lerch fide FG). Eastern Wood Pewee: way down on TBBS. Tree Swallow: numbers at MNWR continue to decline as the dead trees with nesting holes continue to blow down; MJ found them "more common" at SAD this year with 17 pairs fledging 31 young from 81 eggs with raccoon predation high. Bank Swallow: good numbers at MNWR; down on BBBS; colony of 200 nest in an abandoned quarry in woods northeast of Geneva. Barn Swallow continues abundant in all areas. Rough-winged Swallow: 2 Jun 22 Clifton Springs (JW); few at MNWR. Cliff Swallow: 7 reported from Monterey Schy Co. Purple Martin: continued recovery from recent lows at MNWR, SAD Geneva and Schy Co. Blue Jay: "a bonus year" Schy Co (JB); way up on TBBS. RAVEN: a hiker reported 5 birds in Monterey area Schy Co and on Jun 13 JB checked it out finding 3 birds on Switzer Hill Rd circling and calling overhead; identification made on basis of calls and silhouettes; the birds are reported to have been in the area for 4-5 years. Black-capped Chickadee: 4 attempts to nest in bird boxes at SAD were unsuccessful. Tufted Titmouse: found on TBBS for 2nd time in 9 years; young brought to feeder in Trumansburg (LP). Red-breasted Nuthatch: at 3 locations in high hills of Schy Co and 1 Jun 30 at Watkins Glen (JB) are the only reports. Brown Creeper: 2 Aug 11 Clifton Springs (JW); nested at Stasche's in Caton (MW). House Wren; reported up all over the

Region; at SAD 13 pairs fledged 36 young from 61 eggs as against 9 pairs and 69 young from 71 eggs in 1973. Winter Wren: 1 singing Jun-Aug at Cornell Wildflower Preserve (EK). Long-billed March Wren: none at Elmira; fewer at Watkins Marsh; reduced numbers at MNWR parallels the reduced acreage of cattails. Mockingbird: LOSS reported increase at Ithaca; 3 pairs at Sampson State Park and 1 near JP (MJ). Wood Thrush; continued high numbers on TBBS for the third year. Hermit Thrush: nest with 4 young about to fledge near Monterey and 3 others singing in 2 different locations in Schy Co (JB). Eastern Bluebirds: 6 pairs nesting in boxes fledged 11 young from 24 eggs at SAD with another pair successfully using a natural cavity compared to 2 pairs and 4 young in 1973 (MJ); 2 nests at Trumansburg fledged no young (LP). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: seen on Avery Rd in northern Seneca Co in Jun (Jim and Judy Stewart). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 2 in the usual summer location on Connecticut Hill (JB); heard but not seen in the spruce forest in Chemung Co where they were found feeding young in 1973 (MW). Cedar Waxwing: these wanderers were found at Clifton Springs (JW), MNWR, Etna (SHS), TBBS and BBBS.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: On the 25 mile BBSs the following were recorded.

	TBBS Jun 2	RBBS Jun 8	BBBS Jun 20
Red-eyed Vireo	16	2	12
Warbling Vireo	5	1	0
Black-and-white Warbler	1	0	0
Blue-winged Warbler	2	0	0
Yellow Warbler	24	11	5
Chestnut-sided Warbler	2	0	2
Ovenbird	2	0	0
Common Yellowthroat	18	0	7
American Redstart	0	0	2

Warbling Vireo: MJ reports an intense local concentration in the Lake Housing area of SAD.

Warblers: Blue-winged: "definitely up in numbers" in the Keuka area (FG). *BREWSTER'S*: seen in the same locale in the Keuka area as last year (FG et al) no verifying details. *LAWRENCE'S*: a singing bird described as having "white wing bars, bright yellow breast, throat and face offset by the black facial markings" was found on Turkey Hill Rd Tompkins Co by Doug Wells and Tom Goettel and remained into Jul (many observers fide EK) Nashville: young being fed Aug 9 Dutch Hill Chemung Co (WH). Myrtle: singing bird Jun-Jul Switzer Hill Rd Schy Co (JB). Cerulean: 1-2 singing Jun 25-Jul 1 Cayuta Lake (JB). Ovenbird; scarce at Elmira (MW). *HOODED WARBLER*: a singing bird seen by Chris Mullin et al in mid-Jun on Hammond Hill near Ithaca (fide E. Bibbe). Wilson's: female Jun 21 Elmira (WH). Redstart: down at Clifton Springs (JW).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: 13 on TBBS was high. Indigo Bunting: up in the Clifton Springs area (JW). Purple Finch: pair present late Jul-early Aug Clifton Springs (JW); 1 on TBBS. House Finch; now reported from Painted Post (MW); continues to increase at Ithaca (LOSS). Rufous-sided Towhee: good numbers at JP (WEB); way down on TBBS. Savannah Sparrow: scarce MNWR; lowest ever on TBBS. Grasshopper Sparrow: "very scarce" at Ithaca (E Kibbe); "very numerous" at Holding Point near Horseheads (MW); singing males at 3 sites JP (Jim and Judy Stewart); up on TBBS. Henslow's Sparrow; "non-existent" at Ithaca (E Kibbe); missed for 2nd year on TBBS; present at 3 locations Schy Co (JB); 2 on Romulus BBS near Seneca Falls (MJ). Dark-eyed Junco: seen on Combs Hill Elmira Jul 16 (WH); nested for 2nd year north of Branchport (FG). Swamp Sparrow continued low numbers MNWR. Song Sparrow: still abundant but perhaps less so.

RD 2, Clyde, N.Y. 14433

REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

Temperatures averaged near normal for the whole period. Only once, July 14, was the official temperature 90 degrees or over. And one period of eight days in early July included almost all the occurrences of temperatures in the high eighties. Precipitation was also about normal until the beginning of a severe dry spell about August 5.

Observers' initials used: LB—Les Bemont; RB—R. W. Bennett; CB—Cheryl Boise; MC—Mildred Clark; GC—Gail Corderman; A,MD—Anna and Marilyn Davis MD—Mary Dobinsky; D,ML—Dwight and Margaret Lynch; MS— Mary Sheffield; CW—Cora Wellman; KW—Kathryn Wilson; IW—Irene Wright.

BBS stands for Fish and Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Survey. Each species found on at least one of the surveys submitted has the survey totals reported, in parentheses, immediately following the species name. The first number represents the total number of individuals found and the second number the number of surveys recording the species. Thus (4,2) reports 4 individuals on 2 surveys. Surveys available were: Cooperstown, June 15, CW; Coventryville, June 23, LB, Lisle, June 9, Robert Pantle; MacDonough, June 23, Claude Howard; Whitney Point, June 15, Robert Pantle.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 Jul 12 and 17 Oneonta Reservoir (IW, KW). Pied-billed Grebe: 3 locations in Milford area—an adult Jun 8 with chick on its back (MD, CW, KW). Great Blue Heron: (4,2) Green Heron: (6,2). Canada Goose: (1,1) Whitney Point BBS: 1 brood at Rogers Environmental Education Center, Sherburne (CB); 1 at Owego all summer. Mallard: nesting report from Milford (MD). Black Duck: nesting report from Sherburne (CB). Blue-winged Teal: several Otsego County reports during Jun. Wood Duck: nesting from Sherburne (CB). Lesser Scaup: Jun 1 Portlandville (MD,KW).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: (2,1); fairly frequent reports, primarily from Otsego County—12 Jul 14 near Oneonta (MD), the best count. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 4 reports. Cooper's Hawk: 1 Jun 8 Portlandville (MD, KW), the only report. Red-tailed Hawk: (1,1); numerous reports. Red-shouldered Hawk: 4 Jul 6 Milford area (MD, CW, KW), 2 adults and 2 immatures; 2 other reports. Bald Eagle: undated report from Owego during period (RB, D,ML). American Kestrel: (6,4). Merlin: 1 Jun 11 East Meredith, near Oneonta in Delaware County, (MC). Bobwhite: 1 heard Jun 28 Sherburne (CB), possibly an escaped bird. Ring-necked Pheasant: (4,3). Turkey: Aug 11 Owego area (RB, D,ML). Killdeer: (30,5). Common Snipe: (1,1), Lisle BBS; quite common at Sherburne (CB). Upland Sandpiper: 1 Jun 4 Meredith (MC). Spotted Sandpiper: (3,2). Rock Dove: (27,4). Mourning Dove: (65,5). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: (2,2); only 2 other reports. Black-billed Cuckoo: (4,2); at least 8 other reports. Screech Owl: (3,1), Lisle BBS; numbers improving gradually. Great Horned Owl: (1,1). Barred Owl; Jun 19 Hartwick area (MD, CW); frequently during summer south of Binghamton, as for several years (GC).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Nighthawk: regular in Binghamton, Endicott and Oneonta all period. Chimney Swift: (23,5). Belted Kingfisher: (6,4). Common Flicker: (39,5). Pileated Woodpecker: (3,2). Red-headed Woodpecker: 2 present from early Jul to end of period Sherburne (CB). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: (1,1) Cooperstown BBS; at least 8 other reports from the Oneonta, Owego and Sherburne areas; maximum count 4 Jul 13 Maryland, in Otsego County (MD, CW, KW). Hairy Woodpecker: (4,3). Downy Woodpecker: (12,4). Eastern Phoebe: (30,5). Traill's Flycatcher: (17,3), 3 on Coventryville BBS all Willow; Jun 19 Milford area (MD, CW), Willow; 1 Aug 3 Milford (MC, MD, CW, KW), Alder; both Alder and Willow at Sherburne during period (CB). Least Flycatcher: (41,5).

Eastern Wood Pewee: (9,4). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 in mid Jun Sherburne (CB). Tree Swallow: (14,4). Bank Swallow: (11,3). Rough-winged Swallow (2,2). Barn Swallow: (82,5), 46 on Cooperstown BBS. Cliff Swallow: several at Guilford Center Jul 24 (CB); Jul 30 Owego (RB, D,ML). Purple Martin: (2,2). Blue Jay: (58,1). Common Crow: (170,5). Black-capped Chickadee (25,5). Tufted Titmouse: regular at Chenango Forks all period (A,MD). White-breasted Nuthatch: (4,4). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 3 Jul reports from Milford area (MD, CW, KW); 1 Aug 12 Sherburne (CB). Brown Creeper: 3 Jun reports from Oneonta-Milford area (MD, CW, IW). House Wren: (69,5). Winter Wren: Jun 8 Portlandville (MD, KW), no others. Carolina Wren: an immature banded Aug 12 Endwell (LB); also reported from Owego (RB, D,ML). Short-billed Marsh Wren: 1 Jun 17 Milford (CW). Mockingbird: 1 Jun 2 Oneonta (IW); Jun 26 Owego (RB, D,ML); 1 Jul 21 and 2 Jul 23 Choconut Center (MS). Gray Catbird: (47,5). Brown Thrasher: (26,5). Robin: (238,5). Wood Thrush: (90,5). Hermit Thrush: (2,1) Macdonough BBS; 5 locations in Milford area (MD, CW, KW); 2 Jul 7 and 14 Choconut Center (MS); 1 at Sherburne early Jul (CB); Owego Jul 28 (RB,D,ML). Veery: (27,5). Eastern Bluebird: (4,2); best count 10 Aug 3 Milford. Cedar Waxwing: (27,4). Starling: (474,5).

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: (5,4); rather frequent reports. Solitary Vireo: 5 Jun reports, all from Oneonta-Milford area. Red-eyed Vireo: (81,5). Warbling Vireo: (6,4). Black-and-white Warbler: (3,2). Golden-winged Warbler: (1,1); 3 Jun 19 Hartwick area (MD, CW); several in Binghamton area. Blue-winged Warbler: Jun 9 and 23 Chenango Forks (A,MD); Jun 19 Hartwick area (MD, CW); 1 Aug 8 Sherburne (CB). Nashville Warbler: (3,3). Yellow Warbler: (76,5). Magnolia Warbler: 5 reports of 1 to 3 in Jun and Jul Hartwick-Oneonta-Milford area (MD, CW, KW); 1 Jun 20 Sherburne (CB). Black-throated Blue Warbler: (3,2); 9 locations in Milford area (MD, CW, KW), 5 Jul 27 the best count. Yellow-rumped Warbler: 2 locations in Milford area Jun and early Jul (MD, CW, KW). Black-throated Green Warbler: (8,2); reasonably frequent reports in Milford area; also reported from Owego and Sherburne. Blackburnian Warbler: Jun 19 Hartwick area (MD, CW); 1 Jul 2 Sherburne (CB). Chestnut-sided Warbler: (22,5). Bay-breasted Warbler: 1 Jun 3 Delhi (MC) and another early Jun record Sherburne (CB). Blackpoll Warbler: 2 heard in early Jul and 1 seen Jul 4 Oneonta (KW), remarkably late. Pine Warbler: (1,1) MacDonough BBS. Ovenbird: (23,4). Northern Waterthrush: (2,1). Mourning Warbler: (1,1) MacDonough BBS; 4 locations in Milford area (MD, CW, KW); also at Sherburne (CB). Yellowthroat: (148,5). Hooded Warbler: (1,1) MacDonough BBS. Canada Warbler: (2,1). American Redstart: (12,4).

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: House Sparrow: (116,5). Bobolink: (65,5). Eastern Meadowlark: (60,5). Redwinged Blackbird: (675,5). Northern Oriole: (34,4). Common Grackle: (186,5). Brown-headed Cowbird: (31,5). Scarlet Tanager: (14,4). Cardinal: (23,5). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: (20,5). Indigo Bunting: (40,4). Purple Finch: (9,2). House Finch present at Vestal (GC) and Endwell (LB) almost all period but dwindling in Aug; 2 Jul 3 at Sherburne (CB). American Goldfinch (65,5). Rufous-sided Towhee: (42,5). Savannah Sparrow: (33,4). Grasshopper Sparrow: (3,2); also 3 Milford area reports. Henslow's Sparrow: Jun 10 and Jul 14 Choconut Center (MS), the only summer reports. Dark-eyed Junco: (4,3); quite a few reports from Oneonta-Milford area. Chipping Sparrow: (68,5). Field Sparrow: (73,5). White-throated Sparrow: (9,3); fairly numerous Oneonta-Milford area reports, maximum count 12 Jul 6 (MD, CW, KW). Swamp Sparrow: (9,3). Song Sparrow: (9,3).

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REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

FRITZ SCHEIDER

Wet, wet, wet, wet, wet, wet, wet, seven straight months of above-average rainfall with a near record for June, a record number of inches of rainfall for July, and another near record for August. The high water levels engendered from all this rain precluded extensive shorebird habitat developing and the early fall flight (July and August) was frankly wretched. An extremely heavy rainstorm (four inches in twelve hours) July 3-4 undoubtedly ruined many local nestings; the absence of swallows and thrushes after that storm suggested that many of their nestings were completely wiped out.

Various breeding bird surveys provided most of the statistical material for the summer season — the counts include Kasoag and Oriskany Falls, Oneida, Clinton, North Wilmurt, Pulaski, Old Forge, and Cicero Center.

Positives for the summer are 1) good production in the local Great Blue Heron colonies coupled with a small spate of southern white herons; 2) good summer numbers of Red-tailed Hawk and American Kestrel; 3) considerable increases in certain flycatchers (q.v.); 4) continuing expansion of Carolina Wren; 5) an explosion of certain local breeders — House Wren, Northern Oriole, and American Goldfinch; 6) an improvement in numbers of certain species of vireos; 7) better counts on some warblers — e.g. Cerulean, Black-throated Green, and Blackburnian Warblers; and 8) increases in Savannah and Henslow's Sparrows (q.v.).

Negatives are unfortunately many — 1) absence of breeding Pied-billed Grebe; 2) decline in numbers of breeding Black Duck and Blue-winged Teal; 3) continued paucity of breeding Accipiters, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Marsh Hawk; 4) a miserable shorebird flight, both in numbers and variety; 5) markedly reduced Black Tern tallies; 6) far fewer reports of both cuckoos than heretofore; 7) marked drops in tallies of Common Nighthawk and Chimney Swift; 8) declines in breeding Long-billed Marsh Wren and Swamp Sparrow in the major marshes although Swamp Sparrows seem to be increasing in smaller, temporary marshes created by the recent rains; 9) reduced numbers of both Yellow-rumped Warbler and White-throated Sparrow in the southern highlands where some other northern species seem to be expanding; and 10) continued decline of Vesper Sparrow and continued, paucity of Grasshopper Sparrow.

Rarities for the period — Snowy Egret, Whimbrel, Wilson's Phalarope, Northern Phalarope, and Acadian Flycatcher.

Abbreviations: BBS—U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Survey; LOL—Lake Ontario Littoral; NPT—Northern Pompey Township; Onon L.—Onondaga Lake; SP—Sandy Pond; SSSP—Selkirk Shores State Park near Port Ontario; THP—Tug Hill Plateau; TRGMA—Three Rivers Game Management Area near Baldwinsville.

Initialed Observers: DWC—D W Crumb; FL—F J LaFrance; JWP—J W Propst; MSR—M S Rusk; FGS—F G Scheider.

My thanks to D W Crumb, F J LaFrance, and J W Propst in the compilation of this report.

LOONS—DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebe: none reported for the entire summer. Great Blue Heron: TRGM colony with 58 individuals Jun 15 (JWP); also a recently discovered colony near Fair Haven — 30 nests Jul 15 (J Davis fide MSR); also five nests with 13 young Pompey Twshp in late Jun (FL). Green Heron: max 53 (low) Aug 15 Horseshoe Island, a recognized roost. Great Egret: one-four/day thru Jul and Aug at Rice Creek Bio-field Station (G Maxwell). SNOWY EGRET: one Aug 6 State University Campus at Oswego (G Maxwell et al), only the eighth regional record. American Bittern: singles only for N Syr, Oswego, and SP.

Mallard: fair production this spring and summer — max 58 Aug 12 Onon L. Black Duck: very scarce — max only seven Jul 27 Onon L. Green-winged Teal:

present for the first time on both Cicero Center and Oneida BBS. No summering diving ducks noted.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: one-two/day along LOL and TRGMA; none this year from THP or the south shore of Oneida L. No Goshawk and only one Sharp-shinned Hawk and one Cooper's Hawk reported for the entire season — very scarce; similarly the only breeding area Red-shouldered Hawk is one Jun 9 near Florence (MSR); no Adirondack reports but this may be only the current lack of observers there. Marsh Hawk: three only — singles NPT Jul 1 (DWC), an ad male near Pulaski Jun 6 (FGS), and one Sterling Twshp Jun 22 (MSR). Red-tailed Hawk and American Kestrel: both doing very well with all time high of American Kestrel on Pulaski BBS and all time high of Red-tailed Hawk on Cicero Center BBS. Osprey: single Jul 30 Onon L (G Huggins) is first fall migrant (very early).

Ring-necked Pheasant: numbers down on all breeding bird surveys reporting them — max only seven (very low) near Eaton (G Church).

Comon Snipe: appeared on four (two for the first time) of the eight BBS. Up-land Sandpiper: very scarce — only breeding birds reported are at West Monroe, Pulaski, and Oneida; fall max only 15 at a golf course Aug 4 Cicero.

Fall shorebirds numbers were disastrously low — the miserably low maxima include Semipalmated Plover 19 Jul 25 Onon L; Killdeer 210 Aug 4 Mexico Twshp; Ruddy Turnstone four Jul 25 Onon L and again four Aug 4 SP; Spotted Sandpiper 33 (very low) Jul 12 Onon L; Solitary Sandpiper five Jul 31 Lewis Point area; Greater Yellowlegs four Jul 23 Oneida L; Lesser Yellowlegs 78 Aug 13 Onon L; Red Knot two Aug 4 SP; Pectoral Sandpiper three (very low) Jul 31 Oneida L; Baird's Sandpiper one Jul 17 (early) Onon L; Least Sandpiper 70 Aug 13 Onon L; Short-billed Dowitcher four Jul 20-21 Onon L; Stilt Sandpiper six Aug 13 Onon L; Semipalmated Sandpiper 845 (the only high count for the period, however) Jul 25 Onon L; Sanderling 82 Jul 27 SP.

Rare shorebirds include *WHIMBREL* one Jul 16 Onon L (JWP), *WILSON'S PHALAROPE* one Jul 27 Onon L (G Huggins), and *NORTHERN PHALAROPE* one Nine Mile Point Aug 12 (MSR).

Great Black-backed Gull: single summering bird at Oneida L Jul 5 — 23 (D Ackley), most unusual away from L Ontario. Common Tern: very scarce except at colonies at Oneida L — max 225 adults and young Jul 30 (GA Smith, M Hughes). Black Tern: locally a vanishing species — max only three Jul 30 Oneida L and they might well have been early migrants at that date.

Mourning Dove: all time highs on Pulaski and Oriskany Falls BBS; definitely increasing. There were two Yellow-billed and 15 Black-billed Cuckoos from 14 observers — very scarce, particularly when contrasted with the appreciably increased numbers of last summer. Long-eared Owl: an injured bird Jul 26 (Darcy fide DWC) in Fayetteville is the only report.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: Whip-poor-will: max 14 each Jun 1 near Camden (B and S Peebles) and Jun 6 West Vienna (DWC,MSR). Common Nighthawk: very scarce — max only eight Jun 18 Syr (MSR); most observers had only one-five/day if they had any; this species like Henslow's and Grasshopper Sparrows should be carefully censused soon as it appears to be heading into a decline as spectacular as its courtship sky-diving. Chimney Swift: max 25 (low) Jun 27 NPT; most counts only four — 12/day — definitely much scarcer than just two years ago.

Yellow-shafted Flicker: record tallies from Ontario Lakeplain BBS but down in all other sectors. Pileated Woodpecker: one on Oriskany Falls BBS Jun 12 is a new locality. Red-headed Woodpecker: singles or pairs at Pompey (2), Tully, Lee Center, Oneida, Munnsville (2), Oswego, Oriskany Falls, Wampsville, and Pulaski — scarce but slightly better than the spring figures would have indicated.

Eastern Kingbird: normal or minimally increased on all BBS except Pulaski BBS where virtually doubled. Great Crested Flycatcher: up on four of the eight BBS, in some cases more than doubled. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: first fall migrant Aug 9

(early) NPT (DWC). *ACADIAN FLYCATCHER*: one at Highland Forest Jun 18 (PA DeBenedictis) is second regional record. Alder Flycatcher: max 10 N Wilmurt BBS; numbers the same or somewhat reduced on all BBS. Willow Flycatcher: max 20 Cicero Center BBS Jun 13; most counts five – six/day; interestingly neither Alder or Willow Flycatchers were recorded at any station on the Old Forge BBS. Least Flycatcher: all time high on seven of eight BBS; however still very scarce in southern highland woodlots (JMP, DWC). Eastern Wood Pewee: record tallies on three of eight BBS with other tallies close to normal. Olive-sided Flycatcher: spring dep date Jun 7 one Labrador Pond (DWC) with fall arr date Aug 15 one Tully (JWP).

Horned Lark: very scarce – max only 12 (very low) Aug 4 near Mexico. Tree Swallow: all time high on four of the eight BBS; however, down on all Ontario Lakeplain counts – ??effect of recent spraying?? Rough-winged Swallow: total of eight for entire summer – no evidence of recovery from the disastrous floods of Hurricane Agnes 1972. Cliff Swallow: small but average numbers from the various BBS; summer max, however, only 12 (incredibly low) Aug 4 SP.

Blue Jay: all time high counts for four of the eight BBS. Black-capped Chickadee: increasing numbers, e.g. high of 38 (double previous high) Old Forge BBS Jun 21. Tufted Titmouse: one Jun 9 Oswego (C Wernick) is unusual as summer records are quite scarce, even near recognized breeding sites.

House Wren: an explosion of wrens – all time highs on six of eight BBS; max 35 Jun 27 NPT (DWC). Winter Wren: definitely up – max of 40 (four times previous high) Old Forge BBS Jun 21. Carolina Wren: four singles noted thru summer, the most unusual one on the Kasoag BBS Jun 9 (MSR) – increasing again and more rapidly than the Tufted Titmouse or Mockingbird. Long-billed Marsh Wren: quite scarce – max only seven near Pennellville Jun 2 (JWP) with other counts only one-four/day. Brown Thrasher: max ten Jun 6 Kasoag BBS.

American Robin: all time high on four of eight BBS; present in numbers everywhere – Ontario Lakeplain, suburbia, Adirondacks! Wood Thrush: eight–36/BBS; numbers definitely up in Adirondacks. Veery: increasing in certain sectors locally – 25 Jun 28 Labrador Pond (DWC) and also 25 Pulaski BBS Jun 21. Eastern Bluebird: G Church had only eight fledged young out of 34 eggs from 18 nests; H P Nodecker banded 27 Bluebirds in the Oneida area; only two individual, however, from all eight BBS. Golden-crowned Kinglet: increasing in many southern highland spruce plantation, especially Highland Forest where one was noted feeding a young Brown-headed Cowbird Jun 28 (DWC).

Cedar Waxwing: everywhere – elevated tallies on most BBS and the Aug counts show dozens to hundreds of birds about.

VIREOS–WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: counts one-three/day from various southern valleys and gulfs with max six from Oneida L woodlots Jul 5; may be also increasing in woodlots along L Ontario. Solitary Vireo: max nine Old Forge BBS Jun 21; also one noted carrying food Rome Sand Plains Jul 25 (P and S Paquette) where very scarce; first fall migrant Aug 8 (very early) one Tully (JWP). Red-eyed Vireo: impressive tallies – all time highs on seven of eight BBS with max 154 Old Forge Jun 21, this an all time regional high; a group of 16 Jun 2 Syr may represent tardy spring migrants. Warbling Vireo: still not up to normal but increasing from the very low numbers of summer 1973.

Black-and-white Warbler: present for first time on both Clinton and Pulaski BBS. Blue-winged Warbler: max three Pompey Aug 9 (FL); numbers increasing in southern highlands with the birds there showing a strong preference for abandoned apple orchards. Parula Warbler: max eight (up) Jun 21 Old Forge BBS. Magnolia Warbler: max 21 (three times previous high) Old Forge BBS Jun 21. Cape May Warbler: singing male Jun 21 Old Forge BBS is either a territorial male or an extraordinarily late migrant. Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 20 Old Forge BBS Jun 21 and 16 Thendara Jun 29 (MSR). Yellow-rumped Warbler: present in small numbers on Pulaski BBS, in the southern highlands, and at Rome

Sand Plains; Adirondacks numbers only fair – five – nine/day. Black-throated Green Warbler: increased (nearly doubled) on both N Wilmurt BBS and Old Forge BBS. Cerulean Warbler: an expanding colony (eleven singing males) on Onondaga Indian Reservation with single singing males at Labrador Pond and Tully, areas which have distinctly northern affinities. Blackburnian Warbler: max 40 (four times previous high) Old Forge BBS Jun 21. Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 34 (down slightly) N Wilmurt BBS Jun 9; usual numbers present in THP, southern highlands, and LOL woodlots. Ovenbird: numbers probably increasing in both Adirondack sector and THP but numbers low in LOL woodlots and, like the Least Flycatcher, particularly low in the southern highlands (only one – five/day). Louisiana Waterthrush: only report is a pair at Highland Forest – like the Rough-winged Swallow, a streamside species still extremely scarce from the 1972 hurricane flooding. Mourning Warbler: down on most BBS – max only seven Taberg-Florence area Jun 9 (MSR). Yellow-breasted Chat: five individuals thru summer – much above the usual one/season. Yellowthroat: record high counts on four of the eight BBS with a range of nine – 54/BBS. Hooded Warbler: a pair at Labrador Pond Jun 28 is a new location (DWC) and particularly surprising in that place, one of the most “northern” habitats of the southern highlands. American Redstart: increased in six of eight BBS; range two-40/BBS with summer max 76 Kasoag-Taberg-Florence Jun 9.

BLACKBIRDS–SPARROWS: Bobolink: markedly increased on the farm country BBS with range 18-53/BBS; max 125 Aug 6 Pompey (FL), probably birds in pre-migrational flocking. Eastern Meadowlark: tallies increased on the farm country BBS – range five – 41/BBS. Northern Oriole: record tallies on four of eight BBS; however, no increase of migrants noted along LOL in first half of Aug as anticipated.

Scarlet Tanager: elevated counts for N Wilmurt and Old Forge BBS; counts otherwise down with max only six Otto Mills THP Jun 25.

Cardinal: expanding numbers in Taberg-Camden-Westernville area with one-three/day; soon they will be everywhere– Rose-breasted Grosbeak: BBS tallies 4-13/BBS; max otherwise, however, only 11 Kasoag-Taberg-Redfield Jun 9. Indigo Bunting: 17 on both Kasoag and Pulaski BBS with max 21 on Cicero Center BBS. Purple Finch: increased numbers in the southern highlands – also increased pairs in suburbia (N Syr, DeWitt, Fayetteville) which may explain the rather slow expansion of the House Finch locally; however, all BBS where Purple Finch were present showed some modest drop in numbers. American Goldfinch: 53 nests produced 186 eggs, 94 young, and approximately 65 fledged young (DWC); 12-25/day thru summer; BBS tallies about average. Rufous-sided Towhee: max 35 Kasoag BBS; decreases noted on the Oriskany Falls, N Wilmurt, and Cicero Center BBS; as expected, none on Old Forge BBS where it is very scarce.

Savannah Sparrow: up on four of eight BBS with range four-21/BBS. Grass-hopper Sparrow: ten birds at six sites for entire region – still a very scarce bird with only minimal recovery from the low tallies of previous three years. Henslow's Sparrow: markedly increased – max a colony with 15 singing birds at Bolivar (DWC) Jul 12 thru Aug 15; total of 15 birds from eight other sites with none from the grassy fields of western Cayuga County, a local Henslow's Sparrow stronghold, which were not surveyed at all. Chipping Sparrow: increased on five of eight BBS; max for summer 30 Clinton BBS Jun 15. Field Sparrow: tallies holding steady or slightly down – max, however, only 15 Pulaski BBS Jun 13. White-throated Sparrow: record tallies for Old Forge and Kasoag BBS; however, numbers in southern highlands reduced – only one-two/day, at Morgan Hill, Highland Forest, and Labrador Pond. Swamp Sparrow: increased numbers in smaller swamps and marshes of southern highlands – South Onondaga, Tully, Onondaga Indian Reservation, Pompey; also fair numbers at DeWitt Marsh but the counts from the major marshes along the Seneca and Oneida Rivers are still markedly reduced – only two-six/day. Song

Sparrow: increased on five of eight BBS; some counts, e.g. Oneida BBS, nearly doubled; daily range six - 20/day with max 61 Jun 9 Oriskany Falls BBS plus Carpenter Pond.

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

LEE B. CHAMBERLAINE

Summer of 1974 was cooler and much wetter than last year. It was a pleasant summer and seemed rather birdless - at least for myself.

After receiving individual's reports, I realized there had been much around that I had missed and this shows how biased one's own field experiences can be.

Species which provided the most interesting observations were waterbirds, waterfowl, some birds of prey, shorebirds and warblers. The lack of more Bald Eagle observations is disappointing to say the least. However, Osprey success at nesting was encouraging.

A few of the most interesting observation of rarer species in Region 6 this period are as follow: Cattle Egret, Great Egret, Least Bittern, Stilt Sandpiper, Northern Phalarope, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Mockingbird; and to top an outstanding list, the following array of Warblers: Golden-winged - Brewster's - Tennessee - Cerulean and two unusual sparrows; Grasshopper and Henslows.

I also wish to thank the many visitors to Region 6 and their field observations which they so kindly provided to me. They are greatly appreciated and makes one more conscientious of his own Region when others can come up with good valuable observations.

Abbreviations: ED - Eldorado Shores; LWMA - Lakeview Wildlife Management Area; PRWMA - Perch River Wildlife Management Area; RMPD - Robert Moses Power Dam; SLR - St. Lawrence River; ULLWMA - Upper & Lower Lakes Wildlife Management Area near Canton N.Y.; WGSP - Whetstone Gulf State Park; WHWMA - Wilson Hill Wildlife Management Area.

Observers: TC - Tom & Cathy Carrolan; LC - Lee Chamberlaine; MR & CS - Marge Rusk and Chris Spies; JV - Joe VanRiet.

LOON - DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 June 19 Grass Lake (TC); 1 Jul 19 SLR (JV). Pied-billed Grebe; 71+ Aug 15 WHWMA (JV); 15 adults on nests with little ones climbing about (JV). Double-crested Cormorant: 1 Jul 16 SLR (JV); 2 Jul 4 ED (TC); 8 Aug 15 ED (TC); seems to be an increase in Region (LC). Great Blue Heron: very common this year (LC). Green Heron: also very common this year (LC). CATTLE EGRET: 1 Jul 9 near LWMA (Howard Bates). GREAT EGRET: 2 thru period WHWMA (LC). Black-crowned Night Heron: 1 adult June 13 LWMA (TC). LEAST BITTERN: 2 adults Jun 13 LWMA (TC). American Bittern: common thru out period on wetlands in Region (LC). Canada Goose: 700+ Aug 9 birds handled in WHWMA Goose Drive for banding operations; PRWMA Goose Drive 170+ birds; resident flock establishment at ULLWMA 70 goslings released in holding pen in hopes of establishment of a resident breeding flock in 1977. Mallard: local production very good. Black Duck; numbers still low - Mallard seems to be occupying their former position in numbers. Pintail: a few at WHMA - not as many as previous years (LC). Blue-winged Teal: local production very good. American Wigeon: 1 Jul 13 LWMA (TC). Wood Duck: local production very high (LC). Ring-necked Duck: 1 female with 8 downy young Jul 27 ULLWMA (Henry & Mary Armistead).

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 1 Jul 13 near LWMA; 2 Aug 15 ED both (TC); 1 Jul 21 near Canton. Red-tailed Hawk: seen regularly thru period. Broad-

winged Hawk: 1 Jun 24 Lake Bonaparte (TC). Bald Eagle: 1 adult Aug 10 PRWMA (TC) (RW); only sighting during period—usually more (LC). Marsh Hawk: thru period; nest PRWMA. Osprey: 5 young produced from two nests (LC); adult bird found drowned at Sixberry Lake sent in for DDT PCB and heavy metals analysis (LC). American Kestrel: very high numbers on Lake Plain—high microtus population. Ruffed Grouse: in good numbers in much of Region. Bobwhite: 1 covey Jul 13 WHWMA (JV). Gray Partridge: scattered covey locations thru period. Common Gallinule: $30 \pm$ pairs Jul 13 with $5 \pm$; young each pair LWMA (TC). Coot: 1 Jul 13 LWMA. Semipalmated Plover: 9 Aug 15 PRWMA. Black-bellied Plover: 1 Aug 10 WHWMA; 1 summer plumage Aug 11 WHWMA—both (JV). Ruddy Turnstone: 1 Jul 31 WHWMA; 4 Aug 4 WHWMA (JV); 4 Aug 15 (2 summer plumage—2 winter plumage) ED (TC). Woodcock: local production looks good this year. Common Snipe: 1 Jun 23 PRWMA; 1 July 13 LWMA (TC). Upland Sandpiper: maxima 10 Jun 15 Haverstock Farm (JV); numbers up from last year (LC). Spotted Sandpiper: more numerous than previous two years. Greater Yellowlegs: 4 Aug 3 Cape Vincent (TC); 5 Aug 11 PRWMA (TC); 2 Aug 14 WHWMA (JV); 8 Aug 15 ED (TC). Lesser Yellowlegs: $20 \pm$ Aug 14 WHWMA (JV); $20 \pm$ Aug 11 PRWMA (TC). Pectoral Sandpiper: 2 Jul 24 WHWMA (JV); 3 Aug 13 PRWMA (TC). Least Sandpiper: 20 Aug 11 PRWMA (AC); 20 Aug 14 WHWMA (JV); 15 Aug 13 Mill Creek; 24 Aug 13 PRWMA (TC). Short-billed Dowitcher: 1 Aug 15 ED (TC). *STILT SANDPIPER*: 1 Aug 11 PRWMA (TC). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 2 Jul 10 SLR (JV); 4 Aug 11 PRWMA (TC); $20 \pm$ Aug 14 WHWMA; 10 Aug 15 ED (TC). Sanderling: 2 Aug 15 ED (TC). *NORTHERN PHALAROPE*: 1 Aug 15 in winter plumage WHWMA (JV). Great Black-backed Gull: 1 Jul 15; 6 Aug SLR (JV). Ring-billed Gull: populations on Little Galoo Island seems to be still building (LC). Bonaparte's Gull: 5 Aug 15 (4 in summer plumage 1 immature) RMPD (JV). Common Tern: 2 Jul 13 LWMA (TC); 6 Aug 15 ED (TC). Caspian Tern: 1 Aug 15 ED (TC). Black Tern: $100 \pm$; adults $50 \pm$ immatures Jul 13 LWMA (TC); good numbers at ULLWMA with new water levels (LC). Mourning Dove: extremely high numbers as compared with previous years—they are all over the Lake Plain in high numbers (LC). Black-billed Cuckoo: none reported—Fall Web Worm nests very heavy in some localities—but no Cuckoo (LC). Screech Owl: heard thru-out period in Henderson area (LC).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: Chimney Swift: still present at end of period. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: thru period; seem to be more than previous 2 years. Belted Kingfisher: thru period. Common Flicker: thru period in good numbers. Pileated Woodpecker: occasionally thru period in Henderson area (LC). Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 nesting in Massena (JV); a few at PRWMA (LC). Eastern Kingbird: about normal numbers. Great Crested Flycatcher: 8 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). *YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER*: 2 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). Least Flycatcher: 1 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). Horned Lark: 1 Jul 10 Pillar Point (TC). Tree Swallows: thru period; flocking for migration started early this year. (LC). Purple Martin: fairly good nesting year in Henderson area (LC). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 2 June 2 (MR&CS). Brown Creeper: 1 Jun 2 WGSP. Winter Wren: 2 singing males Jun 19 Grass Lake (TC); 2 singing males Jun 24 Lake Bonaparte bog (TV); 8 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). *MOCKINGBIRD*: 3 along 2 mile stretch of road near Depauville (Doug Allen). Eastern Bluebird: one heard near Brownville first week in August (LC). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 2 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). Cedar Waxwing: good numbers due to heavy crops of Black Cherry, Mt. Ash, wild grape and bush honeysuckle (LC). Loggerhead Shrike: good year—many observations.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: 2 Jun 2 WG SP (MR&CS). Red-

eyed Vireo. 15 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). Black-and-white Warbler: 15 June 2 WG SP (MR&CS). *GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER*: 2 males Jun 1 Muskalonge Lake Rd (TC); 1 male same date New Connecticut Rd (TC); 1 male Jun 25 same location; 1 Jun 24 Lake Bonaparte (TC). *BREWSTER'S WARBLER*: 1 male with yellow wingbars Jun 1 Muskalonge Lake Rd (TC). *TENNESSEE WARBLER*: 1 male singing and circling as approached June 21 PRWMA bog (TC). Nashville Warbler: 1 June 2 WGSP (MR&CS); 10± males Jun 16 Ransom Rd (TC); 5± males PRWMA bog (TC). Magnolia Warbler: 2 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). Black-throated Blue Warbler: 12 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). Yellow-rumped Warbler: 5 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). Black-throated Green Warbler: 36 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). *CERULEAN WARBLER*: 3 males singing Jun 1 Muskalonge Lake Rd (TC); 5 males same location Jun 25—a new colony (TC). Blackburnian Warbler: 18 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). Chestnut-sided Warbler: 2 Jun 2 WGSP. Ovenbird: 25 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). Northern Waterthrush: 1 Jun 2 WGSP. Canada Warbler: 29 Jun 2 WGSP. (MR&CS); 1 Jun 24 Lake Bonaparte bog (TC).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: heavy migration of immatures Aug 13-20. Evening Grosbeak: 2 Aug 25 Griffin Rapids—Oswegatchie River (Ted Dittrich). Purple Finch: numbers down from last year in Henderson area (LC); 1 Jun 21 PRWMA bog (TC). Pine Siskin: none seen this summer as last year (LC). American Goldfinch: very common this year (LC).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: 1 Jul 10 Middle Rd Pillar Point (TC). *HEN-SLOW'S SPARROW*: 2 Jul 27-28 near Canton—also sang at night (Henry & Mary Armistead. Dark-eyed Junco: 11 Jun 2 WGSP (MR&CS). Chipping Sparrow: not as many in Henderson area as previous year (LC). Swamp Sparrow: 10± Jun 23 PRWMA (TC); 8 Jun 24 Lake Bonaparte (TC); 30± Jul 13 LWMA (TC).

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

June was cloudy and cool as usual. The high at Ray Brook for the month was 87 degrees on the 10th with a low of 34 three days later. July was normal except for 2.2 inches of rain on the 18th in a six hour period. Heavy rain was reported from much of the region for this date. Perhaps this was late enough in the season not to disrupt nesting too badly.

The weather may be partly responsible for the outstanding fruit and cone crop this year. Even white pine is loaded. At long last someone besides chipmunks can have some beaked hazlenuts. They keep up with the bounty.

Now is the time for all of us who do *not* hunt ducks to buy a duckstamp at any U.S. post office. Proceeds buy wetlands for wildlife. It is a good cause and one in which birders have a stake.

Considerable spraying against blackflies was done in the Adirondacks this year. It seemed to have little effect on the flies, but did kill Cedar Waxwings at Paul Smiths and Tree Swallows near E'town. It is difficult to find the dead birds so extent of kill is hard to determine. This may have some connection with Common Flicker count.

Observers: TB—Tom Barber; JB—Jean Beck; JAB—Jonathan A. Beck; BB—Bruce Beehler; KB—Kathleen Brooks; GC—Geoffrey Carleton; WC—Warren Cook; EC—Elvin Cross; RC—Ruth Cummings TD—Ted Dittrich; LE—Lang Elliott; GOS—Genesee Ornithological Society; EH—Elizabeth Hedges; HiPkAu—High Peaks Audubon Society; MK—Dr. Marguerite Kingsbury; KK—Kevin Koktowski; FL—Ferdinand LaFrance; TM—Ted Mack; Norman Mason; RM—Ruth Meier; FM—Fay

Millais; BM—Bryce Murphy; KM—Keith Murphy; NBBS—Newcomb Breeding Bird Survey—Alice Jones, Helen Manson; EP—Elizabeth Peterson; JP—John M. C. Peterson; GR—Gary Randorf; WR—William Rutherford; R&MS—Robert & Mary Sheffield; CS—Carole Slatkin; SBBS—Speculator Breeding Bird Survey—Fritz Scheider; TLBBS—Tupper Lake Breeding Bird Survey—Dr. Marguerite Kingsbury; UBBS—Underwood Breeding Bird Survey—Alice Jones, Helen Manson; FW—Fred Wardenburg.

Abbreviations: BTP—Browns Tract Ponds; ChamV—Champlain Valley; E'town—Elizabethtown; FourBr—Four Brothers Islands, Willsboro; L—lake; LP—Lake Placid; Mad—Madawaska; Onch—Onchiota PS—Paul Smiths; P—pond; RaqL—Raquette Lake SchL—Schroon Lake; TL—Tupper Lake; WP—Weller Pond off Middle Saranac Lake; West—Westport; Will—Willsboro.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: not many breeding birds; 2 young raised at Elk L (R&MS); 3 Jun 5 WP (R&MS); 5 migrants in one group Jun 18 Will (FW); 1 Jul 9 North Hudson (WC,JP,GR,CS); 1 Jul 21 Follensby Clear P (RM). Horned Grebe: 1 May 28 Essex (JP). Pied-billed Grebe: not reported. Double-crested Cormorant: 1 May 31 holding down a piling West (JP). Green Heron: 7 reports from Essex to Mad, a good count. Cattle Egret: about 20 nests with young Jun 18 FourBr (EC,JP); John Peterson says they first nested here in 1973; Vt. Fish & Game Dept. has been keeping some record of these island birds each year. Black-crowned Night Heron: several nesting Jun 18 FourBr (EC,JP). American Bittern: at least 9 reports; A pair nested at PS. Black Duck: many broods of about 6. Green-winged Teal: 1 Jul 2 Essex (GR, CS). Blue-winged Teal: common and with young Jul Essex (JP). Wood Duck: 1 Jun 29 Mad (GOS); 1 Jul 1 UBBS; 2 Jul 1 Newcomb (AJ,HM); 1 with 6 young Jul 11 Essex (EP,JP). Ring-necked Duck: max 1 pair plus 4 drakes Jun 17 TL (BB). Common Goldeneye: 2 Jul 2 Elk L (AJ,HM); male & female with 4 young not far from some water skiers Jul 4 at Fish Creek (Tom Tetlow); 1 female Jul 17 Upper St. Regis L (TB,JP). Hooded Merganser: 9 young raised at Mad (TM). Common Merganser: large broods all over.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: several reports from E'town to Essex; first Jun 5 E'town (GC); max 8 Jul 24 Essex (JP); perhaps the range of this bird is extending. Goshawk: 4 reports. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Jul 26 E'town (GC); 1 Aug 8 Will (NM). Cooper's Hawk: 1 all of Jun SchL (JB); 1 Jul 7 UBBS. Red-tailed Hawk: 9 reported. Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 Jun 3 VP (R&MS); always scarce. Broad-winged Hawk: 2 or 3 a day. Bald Eagle: 1 adult Jul 10 Essex (WC,GR,CS); 1 Jul 17 Crown Pt (RC). Marsh Hawk: no reports. Osprey: 2 all of period L Colby (many); 2 all period St. Regis Canoe Area (many); 2 Jul 1 LP (GOS); 1 Jul 14 Sch L (JB); 1 standing on edge of nest Jul 21 Rainbow L near PS (TM). American Kestrel: usual pair at Brandon; many in ChamV; max 8 Essex Aug 2 (BM,KM,JP). Spruce Grouse: 1 male Jul 23 Mad (Mrs. L. Schore, TM). Ruffed Grouse: many broods; EH reports 5 or 6 to a brood at Raquette L; it looks like a good season for the grouse hunter. Semipalmated Plover: 3 Jul 31-Aug 5 Essex (JP). American Woodcock: max 15 Jul 16 SchL (JB,JAB). Common Snipe: 2 or 3 individuals wintering places from Essex to PS. Spotted Sandpiper: good numbers. Solitary Sandpiper: first returning Jul 11 Hadley P, Will (WC,GR,CS); max 8 Aug 2 Essex (JP). Lesser Yellowlegs: several Aug 2 on Essex (JP) plus usual scattered reports. Least Sandpiper: first Jul 26 Essex (JP); 4 Aug 4 Essex (JP,KM). Herring Gull: 500 nesting FourBr (Vt. Fish & Game Dept. via JP); decreasing since 1930's (GC). Ring-billed Gull: 10,000 FourBr (Vt. Fish & Game Dept. via JP). Common Tern: not reported. Black Tern: 3 Jun 28 TL (GOS); seems to be the only location in region at present. Mourning Dove: not reported; probably overlooked. Black-billed Cuckoo: at least 12 reports of this usually scarce bird, varying from a remote alder swamp in Newcomb quadrangle to towns. Great Horned Owl: 1

Jun 1 & 15 TL (RM); 1 Jul 9 Essex (JP); 1 Jul 16 PS (TM,WR).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: 1 Jun 5 North Hudson (HiPkAu); 1 Jun 8 & 27 TL (RM); 1 Jun 14 Onch (LE). Common Nighthawk: 1 Jun 16 TL (TM); 2 Jun 21 Port Henry (KB); 1 Jul 12 Brandon (JP); usually a few nest on the burn at Brandon but they are getting scarce. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: numbers way up; 18 Jun 28-30 PS (GOS); 11 Jul 2 in flower garden PS (WR). Common Flicker: drastic drop; max 2 for total on each of 4 breeding bird surveys. Pileated Woodpecker: usual numbers; 2 young left nest Jun 24 Moriah (NM); 2 young left nest Jul 2 Moriah (JB,FM,KK). Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 Jun 29 29 Fish Creek (JP). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: numbers down; one knocked a chipmunk unconscious from a limb 20 feet above ground near bird's nest Jul 20 Onch (LE). Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: at least 8 reported. Northern Three-toed Woodpecker: 2 females Jul 20 BTP (TD,FL). Great Crested Flycatcher: numerous during Jun bike trip from L. George to LP (BB). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 Jun 19 Elk L (R&MS); 2 Jun 30 Mad (GOS); 1 Jul 2 Blue Ridge (AJ,HM). Least Flycatcher: max 33 Jun 8 (SBBS), highest count there ever; numbers high elsewhere as well. Olive-sided Flycatcher: good numbers, max 12 Jun 28-30 PS (GOS). Horned Lark: 1 Jul 2 Essex (GR); 1 Jul 20 Essex (Amy Johnson). Rough-winged Swallow: 4 reports: max 6 Jun 28 PS (GOS). Cliff Swallow: 5 Jul 2 (NBBS); 10 Jul 21 RaqL (TD,FL); plus normal numbers at usual locations. Gray Jay: max 6 Mad Jun 28-30 (GOS); 1 Jul 20 BTP (TD,FL). Common Raven: 2 adults and one young at Cascade L (many); 1 June 29 Elk L croaking (Sally & Ruth White). Boreal Chickadee: good numbers and from some new low elevation areas. Mockingbird: 1 Jun 6 SchL (Eleanor Drake). Brown Creeper: high counts. Winter Wren: numbers definitely up. Short-billed Marsh Wren: 1 Jun 8 (SBBS), a rare bird. American Robin: 1 albino Jul 19 Moriah (NM). Wood Thrush: high counts. Swainson's Thrush: numbers down. Veery: high counts; max 32 Jun 8 (SBBS). Eastern Bluebird max 15 Jun 28-30 PS (GOS); most beaver meadows have at least one pair nesting in the snags. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: numbers high, and noted at several lower elevation sites; pair Jun 17 at 700 feet E'town (GC). Cedar Waxwing: max 52 Jun 8 (SBBS).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: 1 Jun 8 (SBBS); 1 Jun 18 E'town (GC). Solitary Vireo and Red-eyed Vireo: very high counts; 110 of latter on SBBS. Warbling Vireo: 1 Jun 8 (SBBS); 2 Jun 28 Wawbeek, Upper Saranac L (GOS); 2 Aug 15 Moriah Center (Helen Phinney). Black-and-white Warbler: common. Tennessee Warbler: 1 Jun 17 ADK Loj (BB); 1 Jun 30 Onch (GOS). Nashville Warbler: good numbers. Northern Parula Warbler: widely reported. Yellow Warbler: numbers quite low inland but normal in Cham V. Magnolia Warbler: good numbers. Cape May Warbler: 2 pair carrying food Jun 24-Jul 2 Onch (TM); 2 transients Aug 2 E'town (GC). Black-throated Blue, Myrtle, and Black-throated Green Warblers: good numbers. Blackburnian Warbler: high counts most areas; max 20 Jun 8 (SBBS). Chestnut-sided Warbler: high counts; max 48 Jun 8 (SBBS). Bay-breasted Warbler: at least 12 reports and most of these were nesting. Blackpoll Warbler: good numbers. Pine Warbler: 1 Jun 29 Mad (GOS). Northern Waterthrush: numbers down. Louisiana Waterthrush: 1 Jun 4 West (TB,NM); 1 Jul 2 (NBBS), unusual away from Cham V. Mourning Warbler: more than usual most areas. Canada Warbler: max 24 Jun 8 (SBBS). American Redstart: max 45 Jun 8 (SBBS).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: max 20 Jun 29 LP (GOS); first transient Aug 2 E'town (GC). Orchard Oriole: 1 singing Jun 20 Essex (GR,CS), both are familiar with species and details given. Northern Oriole: high counts; max 12 Jun 8 (SBBS). Rusty Blackbird: max 6 Jun 30 Mad (GOS). Scarlet

Tanager: very low in Newcomb and PS but reported normal in other areas. Cardinal: pair Jun Sch L (JB); 1 Jun Bloomingdale (Cheryl White). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 21 Jun 8 (SBBS). Indigo Bunting: high numbers. Evening Grosbeak: good numbers. Purple Finch: very high counts most areas. Pine Siskin: 3 Jul 2 (NBBS), only report of this erratic resident. Red Crossbill: 1 Jul 2 (NBBS). Rufous-sided Towhee: 1 Jul 1 (UBBS); 1 Jul 2 (NBBS); 1 Jul 18 TL (RM). Clay-colored Sparrow: 1 singing male Jun 19 Jay (BB); buzzing, pale legs, striped crown, pale breast and throat, light bill and eyebrow stripe noted at 20 feet for 15 minutes. Lincoln's Sparrow: good numbers; 1 Jun 3 WP (R&MS) may be a new location.

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REGION 8 — HUDSON-MOHAWK

GLADYS SNELL

The temperature for the month of June was 2.5 degrees below normal with a high of 92° on the 10th and a low of 38° on the 13th that broke previous records for those dates. July's temperatures were also 2.5 degrees below normal with a 92° on July 10 and a low of 45° on the 17th which broke the record, and again on the 21st. No temperature records were broken in the first half of August but the departure from normal was -1.7. The precipitation for the period was slightly above normal with the largest amount occurring in July with 1.90 inches on the 29th.

Some interesting comments and observations taken from the reports received may be of interest to our readers. A Glossy Ibis was reported seen in Slingerlands. The White-breasted Nuthatch was less common than the Red-breasted with only 1 banded at Jenny Lake by Robert Yunick while the Red-breasted was absent most of July, reappearing in early August when 4 young were banded. It was disappointing to find only 1 Bluebird sighting on the reports; especially the Breeding Bird Census reports. Also only 2 Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were sighted during the latter part of June at Mariaville at 1300 feet elevation by Doug Allen. The Blackburnian Warbler appeared to be moderately common on most of the Breeding Bird Census reports and at Jenny Lake. There also appeared to be a lack of breeding of Evening Grosbeak for the second year in a row. The only report was the recapture of one previously banded female by Robert Yunick. The Purple Finch situation also appears to have changed. Although a few were reported on the Breeding Bird Census reports, the banding of only 125 by Robert Yunick was a great reduction from the 500 banded last year. The lack of Rusty Blackbirds also appears unusual with only 1 adult reported. Pine Siskin and Red Crossbill that appeared to breed in our area in 1972 and 1973 were totally absent after the spring migrants passed thru. There appeared to be increase of Dark-eyed Junco as evidenced by the banding of 72 at Jenny Lake by Robert Yunick compared to 47 last year. The White-throated Sparrow appeared less common this year with only 1 banded August 3 at Jenny Lake by Robert Yunick but the Song Sparrow was more common than previously with 6 being banded against none last year.

Observers: DA—Doug Allen; PC—Paul Connor; DG—Donald Gorman; WG—William Gorman; MG—M. Gruett; JJ—John Joy; SM—Sam Madison; PO'S—Peter O'Shea; KS—Kenneth Sabin, WS—Walt Sabin; RHS—R. H. Stone; HW—Hudson Winn; RY—Robert Yunick.

Abbreviations: BBC Breeding Bird Census; HF—Hope Falls; JL—Jenny Lake; Mob—many observers; NE—North Easton; NR—North River.

LOON—DUCKS: Great Blue Heron: 2 June 16 BBC Duanesburg (WS,DA).

Green Heron: 1 June 16 BBC (WS,DA); 3 June 19 BBC Salem (PC). American Bittern: 2 June 30 BBC NR (WS,SM); 1 July 6 Rensselaer (PC). Glossy Ibis: 1 August 15 Slingerlands (fide WS); Canada Goose: 9 June 11 and 8 July 6 Rensselaer (PC). Black Duck: early July JL (RY). Blue-winged Teal: 1 July 6 Rensselaer (PC). Wood Duck: 2 June 12 Cherry Plain (PC); 1 July 6 Rensselaer (PC).

HAWKS—OWLS: Goshawk: 1 June 6 Cherry Plain (PC). Red-tailed Hawk: many thru period (Mob). Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 July 6,11,12,13,20 Cherry Plain (PC). Broad-winged Hawk: 1 June 8 NE (WG,DG); 1 June 12,13 and 4 June 20 Cherry Plain (PC); 1 June 22 and August 4 Schodack Center (PC). Marsh Hawk: 1 July 4 BBC HF (RHS, JJ). American Kestrel: many thru period (Mob). Ruffed Grouse: 1 June 14 Cherry Plain (PC); 1 July 8 Schodack Center (PC). Ring-necked Pheasant: 3 June 8 NE (WG,DG); 1 June 15 BBC Duanesburg (WS,DA); 5 June 19 BBC Salem (PC). Virginia Rail: 2 July 6 Rensselaer (PC). Common Gallinule: 7 July 6 Rensselaer (PC). Killdeer: many thru period (Mob). American Woodcock: 1 June 11 Cherry Plain (PC); 1 June 19 BBC Salem (PC). Common Snipe: 2 June 19 BBC Salem (PC). Upland Sandpiper: 2 June 8 (WG,DG); 2 June 15 BBC Duanesburg (WS,DA); 1 August 4 Schodack Center (PC). Spotted Sandpiper: 1 June 8 NE,DG; 1 June 15 BBC Duanesburg (WS,DA). Mourning Dove: many thru period (Mob). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 5 June 8 NE (WG,DG); 1 July 7 Rensselaer (PC). Black-billed Cuckoo: 3 June 8 NE (WG,DG); 1 June 8 BBC Petersburg (HW,MC); 1 June 30 BBC NR (WS,SM); August 12 East Greenbush (WG). Screech Owl: June 15 and July 5 East Greenbush (WG).

GOATSUCKERS--STARLINGS: Chimney Swift: many thru period (Mob). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: a few thru period; 4 adults banded JL (RY). Belted Kingfisher: a few during June and July (Mob). Common Flicker: many thru period (Mob). Pileated Woodpecker: 2 June 8 NE (WG,DG); 1 June 27 BBC Cobleskill (WS,PO'S), 1 June 30 BBC NR (WS,SM); 1 July 4 BBC Warrensburg (WS,KS); August 25 East Greenbush (WG). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 4 July 4 BBC HF (RHS,JJ); 3 July 6 BBC Horian (RHS, JJ); 1 June 11,13,20,23 Cherry Plain (PC). Hairy Woodpecker: many during June and July (Mob). Downy Woodpecker: many during June and July (Mob). Eastern Kingbird: many during June and July (Mob). Great Crested Flycatcher: many during June and July (Mob). Eastern Phoebe: many during June and July (Mob). Alder Flycatcher: 1 June 20 Cherry Plain (PC). Willow Flycatcher: 3 June 8 BBC NE (WG,DG); 5 July 6 Rensselaer (PC). Least Flycatcher: many during June and July (Mob). Eastern Wood Pewee: many during June and July (Mob). Eastern Wood Pewee: many during June and July (Mob). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 June 6 Cherry Plain (PC); 1 July 4 BBC HF (RHS,JJ). Horned Lark: 1 June 19 BBC Salem (PC). Tree Swallow: many during June and July (Mob). Bank Swallow: Barn Swallow: large numbers thru June and July (Mob). Cliff Swallow: many thru June and July (Mob). Purple Martin: 1 June 19 West Stephentown (PC); 1 June 8 NE (WG,DG); 2 July 4 BBC (RHS,JJ). Blue Jay: many thru June and July (Mob). Common Crow: large numbers during June and July (Mob). Black-capped Chickadee: many thru June and July (Mob). White-breasted Nuthatch: a few during June and July; 4 banded early August JL (RY). Brown Creeper: a few during June and July (Mob). House Wren: many during June and July (Mob). Winter Wren: a few during June and July (MOB). Carolina Wren: only report 1 June 8 NE (WG,DG). Short-billed Marsh Wren: 2 June 15 BBC Duanesburg (WS,DA); 5 July 6 Rensselaer (PC). Mockingbird: only report 1 June 8 NE (WG,DG). Gray Catbird: many during June and July (Mob). Brown Thrasher: a few during June and July (Mob). American Robin: a large number thru period (Mob). Wood Thrush: many during June and July (Mob). Hermit Thrush: a few during June and

July (Mob). Swainson's Thrush: 1 July 4 BBC HF (RHS,JJ). Veery: many thru period (Mob). Eastern Bluebird: only report 1 June 19 Salem (PC). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: only report 2 June 15 thru 25 Mariaville (DA). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 2 June 11, 22 Cherry Plain (PC); 2 July 4 BBC HF (RHS,JJ). Cedar Waxwing: many thru June and July (Mob). Starling: large numbers thru period (Mob).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: 2 June 8 BBC NE (WG,DG); 4 June 19 BBC Salem (PC); 1 July 4 BBC HF (RHS,JJ). Solitary Vireo: many during June and July (Mob). Red-eyed Vireo: many during June and July (Mob). Black-and-white Warbler: a few during June and July (Mob). Blue-winged Warbler: 2 June 8 BBC Petersburg (HW,MG); 1 June 6,22 Schodack Center (PC); 1 June 16 East Greenbush (PC). Tennessee Warbler: only report 1 June 8 BBC Petersburg (HW,MG). Nashville Warbler: 1 June 12,14,20 Cherry Plain (PC); 2 July 4 BBC HF (RHS,JJ); 1 July 6 BBC Horican (RHS,JJ). Parula Warbler: 1 June 8 BBC Petersburg (HW,MG); 1 July 4 BBC Warrensburg (WS,KS). Yellow Warbler: many thru June and July (Mob). Magnolia Warbler: many thru June and July (Mob). Black-throated Warbler: a few during June and July (Mob). Yellow-rumped Warbler: many during June and July (Mob); 1 young banded August 4 JL (RY). Black-throated Green Warbler: 3 June 21 Cherry Plain (PC); 2 July 4 BBC and 2 July 6 BBC (RHS,JJ); 1 August 4 JL (RY). Blackburnian Warbler: a few thru period (Mob). Chestnut-sided Warbler: many during June and July (Mob). Pine Warbler: only report July JL (R. Stone). Ovenbird: many thru period (Mob); 3 banded early August JL (RY). Northern Waterthrush: only report 5 June 20 Cherry Plains (PC). Louisiana Waterthrush: 1 June 13 Warrensburg (Bruce Beehler, Essex, N.Y.); June East Greenbush (WG). Mourning Warbler: 1 July 6 BBC Horican (RHS,JJ). Common Yellowthroat: many during June and July (Mob). Canada Warbler: a few thru period (Mob). American Redstart: many during June and July (Mob).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: House Sparrow: many thru June and July (Mob). Bobolink: many thru June and July (Mob). Eastern Meadowlark: many during June (Mob). Red-winged Blackbird: a large number during June but only a few during July (Mob). Northern Oriole: many during June but fewer in July (Mob). Rusty Blackbird: only report 1 adult female with brood patch July 26 JL (RY). Common Grackle: a large number thru June and July (Mob). Scarlet Tanager: many thru period (Mob). Cardinal: many during June and a few in July (Mob). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: many during June and July (Mob); 9 banded JL (RY). Indigo Bunting many during June and July (Mob). Evening Grosbeak: only report 1 female during period JL (RY). Purple Finch: a few during June and July (Mob); first young July 20 vs July 12 last year JL (RY). American Goldfinch: many during June and July (Mob). Rufous-sided Towhee: many during period (Mob); 1 banded August 4, first in 5 years JL (RY). Savannah Sparrow: many during June and only 1 in July (Mob). Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 June 8 BBC NE (WG,DG); 1 June 8 BBC Petersburg, 1500 ft elevation (HW,MG); 2 June 19 BBC (PC). Vesper Sparrow: a few during June (Mob). Dark-eyed Junco: many during June and July (Mob); 72 banded vs 47 last year JL (RY). Chipping Sparrow: many during June and July (Mob). Field Sparrow: many during June but only a few in July (Mob). White-throated Sparrow: many during June and July (Mob); not common this year, banded only 1 August 3 JL (RY). Swamp Sparrow: a few during June and July (Mob). Song Sparrow: a large number during June and July (Mob); more common than previously, banded 6 vs 0 last year JL (RY).

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

The weather thru the period was not unusual. June was wet and cool; July, slightly more rainfall than usual with near normal temperatures; August, dry with temperatures normal to slightly lower.

Bird populaions seemed normal for the most part. There were more accidentals reported than usual; some being truly glamour birds as the report will show.

Observers cited: A.A—Anthony Amos; MB—Martin Borko; GB—Gene Brown; DWF—Davis W. Finch; VF—Valerie Freer; TH—Thelma Haight; FH—Fred Hough; PJ—Paul Jeheber; MJK—Mary & Jim Key; EK—Eric Kiviat; HM—Helen Manson; A,BM—Al & Barbara Merritt; JCO—John C. Orth; FAR—Forrest & Aline Romero; RS—Robert Smart; DS—Dan Smiley; CT—Czecher Terhune; MVW—Marion Van Wagner; MY—Mary Vegella.

Abbreviations: First four letters of each county; PP—Piermont Pier; SS—Surebridge Swamp area of the Harriman Section of the Palisades Interstate Park; WBC—Waterman Bird Club.

LOONS—DUCKS: Double-crested Cormorant: max 21 June 6 PP (AA). Great Blue Heron: most reports from bays and flats along the Hudson; normal to better thru region, numbers still too low however; WBC reports 11 nests with 25 birds counted in late May at Tamarack Swamp; 2 young still in nest Jul 7. Green Heron: common thru period thru region; max 9 Cornwall Bay. Little Blue Heron: 1 imm at PP Jul 21 (RFD), this was the most numerous white Heron in the area dur the 1930's, but this report was the 2nd in the past 10 years in Rock. Cattle Egret: only 1 July 25-31 Hyde Park (MK, MVW). Great Egret: a few summer wanderers reported. Snowy Egret: in the Cornwall Bay area during late Jul; 1 obs flying down river near Nyack was in the company of a Black-bellied Plover with which it kept sparring on July 23. Black-crowned Night Heron: more reports than usual; 12 at PP July 23 (AA); 2-3 at Cornwall Bay July 23-Aug 15. (PJ). *YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON*: 1 at PP Jul 27 was 6th record for Rock. (AA); 1-2 at Cornwall Bay from July 19-28 (A,BM). Least Bittern: obs thru period at PP, Cornwall Bay, and Iona Is; max 8 at Cornwall, several were imm with much down. Glossy Ibis: 1 Jul 25 Dover Plains (MY). Green-winged Teal: very rare in summer, 2 at PP Jul 23 (AA), the second summer for Rock. Blue-winged Teal: regular but uncommon in summer, obs thru period at PP (AA). American Wigeon: RFD and wife obs a fem with 5 half grown young at PP Jul 21, the first local breeding record, 4 males were obs in the area as late as Jul 4. Ring-necked Duck: 4 males at PP June 4 (AA). Lesser Scaup: 1 Cornwall Bay Jul 24 (A,BM). *OLDSQUAW*: a female at PP Jun 16 was the second year in a row (RFD). Red-breasted Merganser: a female at PP May 27,28 (AA).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: max 20 near Roscoe Aug 20 (Ed McBride). *SWALLOW-TAILED KITE*: 1 well-described bird flying over Rt 9W at Storm King Mt., Town of Cornwall on Aug 3, observed by Walter Lehnese and wife of Oakland N.J., he is quite familiar with the species in Florida, and observed the species two years ago at Cape May dur a N.J. Audubon Convention. Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 July 30 near Bullville (John Tramontano); another at Wawarsing Aug 10 (JCO); Walter Lehnese reports a good population inc in north New Jersey, esp in the Waywayonda State Park area, he has also observed several birds regularly in the Island Pond area of the Palisades Interstate Park. Broadwinged Hawk: FH reports this species the most commonly reported Buteo in Ulst. Bald Eagle: 1 sub-adult at PP June 2 (AA). Kestrel: obs nesting at

Kripplebush with young in May. Rails: only reports are Virginia, 1 at Bashakill and another thru season at PP (AA). Common Gallinule: obs thru season at PP(AA); 1 heard regularly thru first half of June at Cruger's Is. (EK). Semipalmated Plover: a few reported each summer, first 2 at PP Jul 23 (AA). Killdeer: sev nesting records from Sull (MB). Black-bellied Plover: 1 near Nyack Jul 23 (see Snowy Egret), 1 Cornwall Bay Aug 9 (PJ). Ruddy Turnstone: 1 Jul 23 and again Jul 26 at PP (AA). Greater Yellowlegs: 2 Jul 30 Cornwall Bay (PJ). Lesser Yellowlegs: 12 Jul 14 PP (AA). Least Sandpiper: never as numerous as the next species but always a few; 7 Cornwall Bay Jul 22-24 (PJ); a few at Piermont Pier Jul 22 (AA). Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 133 Jul 22 at Piermont Pier (AA). Long-billed Dowitcher: 1 well studied at PP Jul 14 (AA), only 3 previous records for Rock. Sanderling: max 9 Jul 23 PP (AA), the 4th record for Rock, reduced to 1 by Jul 28; 4 at Cornwall Bay Jul 26-28 (BJ). Great Black-backed Gull: max 200 at PP Jul 21, significant when compared with the other gulls present; 20 Herring, 4 Laughing, and 1 Ring-billed. Laughing Gull: max 224 Jul 8, inc to 450 by Aug 11 at PP (AA), numbers second only to high of 720 on Aug 15, 1973; numbers diminish markedly as one proceeds upstream, high at Highland Falls was 26 and at Cornwall 6 dur same period. Common Tern: max 55 Jul 26 Piermont Pier (AA). **SOOTY TERN**: Anthony Amos reports 1 bird Jul 26 at PP, he is very familiar with the species in Bermuda where he frequently visits with relatives. Least Tern: a few on Jul 14 inc to 72 by Jul 28 at PP (AA). **CASPIAN TERN**: 1 Aug 9 Cornwall Bay (PJ), the first report in sev years. **BLACK TERN**: rarely noted in spring but not in summer; 2 Jun 23 at Kay's Pd, Dutch found by F. Burch and obs the same day by sev WBC members. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: rep scarce in Ulst; 2 Dutch reports, 1 Jun 10 and another Jun 19 (FAR). Black-billed Cuckoo: 2 ad feeding young Jun 15 in Sull (VF); 2 Jun 2 Town of Northeast, Dutch. (FAR). Long-eared Owl: a pr nested at Salt Pt. Dutch; 4 young obs from Jun 25-Jul 10 at home of Dr. Henry Alben (CT,MJK).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Whip-poor-will: 1 Jun 5 Shunpike, Dutch (FG); another Jul 4 Wilcox Pk Dutch (TH). Hummingbird: nested at Kripplebush and Mohonk in Ulst and reported more frequently than in the past 3 yrs in Dutch. Red-headed Woodpecker: obs near Accord in late Jul, behavior suggested possible nesting in dead elm (FH). **ACADIAN FLYCATCHER**: first found on May census of WBC (see spring report), heard and seen same location thru Jun 22 by DWF and RS, nested same area last year; 3 obs at SS Jun 11 and 1 Jun 18 (GB). Alder Flycatcher: 2 pr. in PP area Jun 1 (AA). Willow Flycatcher: 1 Cornwall Jul 31; 1 Wawarsing until Aug 18; obs in 6 different locations in Dutch thru June. Horned Lark: 1 thru June on Sullivan Community Coll campus (VF). Tree Swallow: very poor nesting record; sev boxes contained dead young; flocking noted by Jul 1 and good movement noted by Aug 1. Bank Swallow: many on Jun 1 at Poughquag gravel bank, a new location; nesting in Pleasant Valley thru June (Jeff Davis). Rough-winged Swallow: a pr feeding 6 young in early July at Wurtsboro (MB). Cliff Swallow: in excellent numbers Aug 17-18 at Wawarsing (JCO). Purple Martin: expanded to 3 boxes at Putnam Valley (MVW); observed over Stanfordville July 4 (FG). Fish Crow: regularly at Crugar's Is. (EK); remains at Vassar Coll. (FAR); several at PP July 28 (AA). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 1 pr excavating a cavity near Kripplebush, but successful nesting not noted (FH); also observed at Mohonk thru period (DS); 1 July 7 in Dutch (HM); single birds observed in two different locations in Harriman Park on Jun 11 and 18. (GB). Brown Creeper: 7 at SS June 11, and 5 there Jun 18 (GB). Winter Wren: single birds at SS on June 11 and 18 (GB); reported singing in Deep Hollow, Dutch thru much of July; also found at Vassar College and Forest Glen (MJK). **BEWICK'S WREN**. a nesting

pair at Mohonk was first discovered by Jim Stapleton and verified by DS, it was later confirmed by FH and HM and many other observers, no dates were reported, but this is probably the first breeding record for this species in N.Y.S. Carolina Wren: well reported thru period, several instances of parents feeding young Long-billed Marsh Wren: ab 1 doz observed at PP on July 21 (RFD); reported abundant at Moodna Marsh (A,BM). Mockingbird: marked increases of past several years not noted this year, species largely reported holding its own. Hermit Thrush: 8 June 11 at SS and 9 June 18 (GB). Bluebird: reported scarce thru region, but WBC had best nesting survey yet, in both number of nests and young raised, no numbers were given, but only 2 failures were reported; 8 pr nested a second time in June, and 7 pr in July; as many as 10 seen at one nest site in early Aug, observed feeding young at 2 places in Pauling; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: numbers holding most areas. Cedar Waxwing: regular and in good numbers thru June and July in Dutch; not commonly reported elsewhere.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: heard at Mohonk Lake by Jim Stapleton, no dates given. Solitary Vireo: 3 June 11 and 1 June 18 at SS were probably residents (GB). Red-eyed Vireo: scarce thru most of region. A,BM reported only 2 for entire period, usually common breeder. Nashville Warbler: 1 Aug 17 Wawarsing (JCO), has been known to breed in that valley; a nesting pr obs June 18 at SS (GB). Magnolia Warbler: 1 June 3 Fort Montgomery, and another Aug 11 Wawarsing (JCO); 1 June 2 was probably a late spring migrant in Dutch. Black-throated Blue Warbler: 1 Aug 17-18 Wawarsing (JCO). Black-throated Green Warbler: 11 June 11 and 7 June 18 at SS (GB). Cerulean Warbler: 1 June 18 at SS (GB); 3 singing near Rhinebeck (MVW). Blackburnian Warbler: 3 June 11 at SS (GB). Blackpoll Warbler: 1 June 1-2 Shunpike, Dutch (FG). Northern Waterthrush: and Louisiana Waterthrush: both species observed thru period in Mohonk area and near Cornwall. **KENTUCKY WARBLER**: 1 June 22 at Rockefeller Inst, Dutch (DWF,RS); another same date at Crugar's Is, singing as close as 10 ft. (Noel Cutright, Kate Redmond). Mourning Warbler: 1 May 30 at Lamont Geo. Obs, Rock (AA). Hooded Warbler: observed June 18 at SS (GB). Wilson's Warbler: 1 June 2 Town of Northeast (FAR). Canada Warbler: 5 June 11 and 10 June 18 at SS (GB).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: 25 May 31 at PP diminished to 1 which remained thru July (AA). Indigo Bunting: very scarce in the lowlands of Ulst. (FH). Savannah Sparrow: 1 singing July 20 at Sullivan Comm. Coll. (VF). Dark-eyed Junco: 2 ad with 2 imm July 5 at Deep Hollow, Dutch; 3 ad obs same area July 26. (MVW) **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW**: found June 22 at Rockefeller Inst, Dutch by DWF and RS, was breeding with Field Sparrow; young were taken for study. White-throated Sparrow: 6-8 thru Aug at Concord Golf Course, Sull (Dan Niven).

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, N.Y. 10928

SPRING REPORT RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR PUBLICATION IN JULY

REGION 8 — HUDSON-MOHAWK

GLADYS SNELL

The temperature for the month of April was slightly above normal with a high of 84 on the 29th and a low of 20 on the 7th. The precipitation was above normal with 11.3 inches of snow. May, however, was below normal with a high temperature of 88 on the 22nd and a low of 29 on the 2nd and 5th. The pre-

cipitation was slightly below normal.

The May banding at Vischer Ferry Wildlife Management, which has been done since 1967, was average despite being rained out on May 3 and 24th. The most successful banding was on May 17th and 24th. A total of 538 birds were banded with some first and new records. Banded for the first time were: 1 Whip-poor-will on May 10th, 1 White-eyed Vireo on May 25th. New records were established for the following: 41 Gray Catbird, 13 Robin, 4 Yellow-throated Vireo, 4 Warbling Vireo, 7 Tennessee Warbler, 35 American Redstart, and 14 Brown-headed Cowbird. The banding of 12 Lincoln's Sparrow tied the previous record with 7 on May 17th establishing a new one day maximum.

There was an excellent duck migration at Saratoga Lake on April 13th and very good Tennessee Warbler flights thru the last of May. The Evening Grosbeak migration was low compared to the last several years, although moderately heavy during a brief flight in early May, 79 were banded by Robert Yunick in his yard between May 5th and 14th. The Crossbills were scarce with only few reported. However, The Common Redpoll was very common during the first half of April with a maximum of 60 on April 8th at Mariaville reported by Doug Allen and 205 banded by Robert Yunick in his yard between April 1st and 22nd. Also, there was a heavy return flight of Pine Siskin during the first half of May with 270 banded by Robert Yunick in his yard April 1st and 22nd. There was a large influx of Dark-eyed Junco beginning in early April with increase at feeders. Robert Yunick banded 42 on April 7th at Jenny Lake and 17 on April 11th. He also banded 91 in his yard between April 12th and 18th.

The day of the Century Run, May 18th, was a pleasant one with good viewing conditions due to slightly late leafing of trees and shrubs. Seven groups totalling 25 observers were in the field from 3:15 am to 10 pm and reported 155 species. No new species were added and the best finds were the Red-throated Loon and Short-billed Dowitcher. Hawks and Owls were scarce.

Observers; DA—D. Allen; JA—J. Allen; BH—B. Havens; B,S—G. Bartlett B. Seguin; B,H,S—G. Bartlett, either B. S. Havens or C. W. Huntley, and B.R. Seguin; B.R.S.—B. R. Seguin; HMBC—Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club; MF—Mabel French; WG—William Gorman; RY—Robert Yunick.

Abbreviations: ADBC—Alan Devoe Bird Club; BCM—Black Creek Marsh; CR—Century Run, Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club; Col Co—Columbia County; fsm—first spring migrant; HGRS—Harold G. Reist Sanctuary; lsm—last spring migrant; L6,L7—Lock 6 and 7 Hudson River; M'dale—Medowdale; Mob—Many observers; NWW—Niskayuna Wide Waters; RL—Round Lake; RLO—Round Lake Outlet; SL—Saratoga Lake; SCR—Stony Creek Reservoir; VFWM—Vischer Ferry Wildlife Management Area; WR—Watervliet Reservoir.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: few April 7 thru May 18 SL (B,H,S); lsm May 18 CR. Red-throated Loon: May 18 CR. Double-crested Cormorant: only report May 18 CR. Horned Grebe: 2 April 7 SL (BRS); lsm 20 April 13 SL (BRS). Pied-billed Grebe: April 2 Col Co (ADBC); 1 April 17 SCR (BRS). Great Blue Heron: fsm 1 March 22 Mohawk River, Amsterdam (DA); thru period (Mob). Green Heron: fsm April 29 Col Co (ADBC) and thru period. Black-crowned Night Heron: 2 May 5 Vosburg Marsh (HMBC). Least Bittern: May 18 CR. American Bittern: fsm 1 April 13 VFWM (BRS); 1 May 18 CR. Glossy Ibis: 1 August 15 Slingerlands (fide WS). Whistling Swan: 1 May 5 Vosburg Marsh (HMBC). Canada Goose: April 7 thru 27 max 700 April 13 SL (BRS); May Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR. Brant 3 May 13 RL (B,H,S); May 18 CR. Snow Goose: 2 April 13 SL (BRS). Mallard: thru period (B,H,S); May Col Co (ADBC); 8 May 11 M'dale (HMBC); May 18 CR. Black Duck: thru period (B,H,S); April 13 and during May Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR. Pintail: 1 May

4 NWW (B,S). Green-winged Teal: April 13 Col Co (ADBC); 10 April 13 SL (BRS). Blue-winged Teal: thru May (Mob). American Wigeon: only report 30 April 13 SL (BRS). Northern Shoveler: only report 2 April 13 SL (BRS). Wood Duck: April 12 thru 27 Col Co (ADBC) and thru May; very few during period (B,H,S); May 18 CR. Ring-necked Duck: only report last seen May 5 WR (B,S). Canvasback: 40 April 13 SL (BRS); lsm 1 April 25 SL (B,S). Greater Scaup: 40 April 13 SL (BRS); May 18 CR. Lesser Scaup: April 13 thru May 4 max 700 April 13 SL (BRS); May 18 CR. Common Goldeneye: 1 May 4 L6 (B,H,S); last seen May 18 CR. Bufflehead: April 7 thru 13 max 20 April 13 SL (BRS). Oldsquaw: April 14 Col Co (ADBC); May CR. White-winged Scoter: only report May 18 CR. Ruddy Duck: only report May 18 CR. Hooded Merganser: 2 April 7 SCR (BRS); April 10 Col Co (ADBC). Common Merganser: April 10 Col Co (ADBC); April 28 SL (B,S); lsm May 18 CR. Red-breasted Merganser: max 13 April 13 SL (BRS); lsm April 28 SL (BRS).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: thru period Col Co (ADBC), Mariaville (DA) and CR. Goshawk: only report May 18 Col Co (ADBC). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 April 13 Rexford (BRS); May 13 Col Co (ADBC) and CR. Cooper's Hawk: April 5, 11 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR. Red-tailed Hawk: thru period (Mob) Red-shouldered Hawk: April 27 and thru May Col Co (ADBC); 1 May 5 M'dale (B,S). Broad-winged Hawk: fsm 5 April 28 Mariaville (DA); 1 May 5 M'dale (B,S); 2 May 6 and thru period Mariaville (DA). Bald Eagle: 1 adult May 25 Mariaville (DA). Osprey: 5 May 4 VFWM (BRS); 1 May 18 CR. American Kestrel: thru period (Mob) Ruffed Grouse: thru period. Bobwhite: only report 2 May 26 Berne, N.Y. (BRS). Ring-necked Pheasant: May Col Co (ADBC); 1 May 18 (B,H,S); May 18 CR. Virginia Rail: fsm April 7 VFWM (GS) and thru period; 2 May 11 M'dale (HMBC); May 18 CR. Sora: May thru period (BRS); 2 May 11 M'dale (HMBC); May 18 CR. Common Gallinule: May 4 thru period (BRS); 2 May 11 M'dale (HMBC); May 18 CR. Killdeer: thru period (BRS); May Col Co (ADBC); 1 May 11 M'dale (HMBC); May 18 CR. American Woodcock: April 7, 14 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR. Common Snipe: April 16 Col Co (ADBC); 1 May 4 thru 23 Rexford (BRS); May 18 CR. Upland Sandpiper: only report May 18 CR. Spotted Sandpiper: May 18 Col Co (ADBC); May 4 thru period (BRS); May 18 CR. Solitary Sandpiper: April 29 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 several locations (BRS) and CR. Greater Yellowlegs: 1 April Rexford (BRS); May 18 CR. Pectoral Sandpiper: fsm April 7 RLO (BRS); 1 May 18 WR (B,H,S); May 18 CR. Least Sandpiper: only report May 18 CR. Short-billed Dowitcher: only report May 18 CR. Dunlin: 1 May 25 Schenectady (DA). Semipalmated Sandpiper: only report May 19 CR. Great Black-backed Gull: a few thru period Rudson-Mohawk River (WG); May Col Co (ADBC). Herring Gull: thru period. Ring-billed Gull: thru period. Bonaparte's Gull: 5 April 13 SL (BRS); 1 May 18 SL (B,H,S); May 18 Col Co (ADBC) and CR. Common Tern: fsm 1 April 27 NWW (B,S); 1 May 18 SL (B,H,S) max 10 May 18 SL (DA); May 18 CR. Black Tern: 3 May 18 SL (B,H,S); max 5 May 18 (DA); May 18 CR. Mourning Dove: thru period (Mob). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: May 18 Col Co (ADBC); 18, 26, 27 (BRS); May 18 CR. Black-billed Cuckoo: May 16 Col Co (ADBC); 2 May 18 (B,H,S); May 18 CR. Screech Owl: May Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR. Great Horned Owl: occasional Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: Whip-poor-will: 1 banded May 10 FWM (RY) first ever banded here; May 16 Mariaville (DA); May 18 Col Co (ADBS) and CR. Chimney Swift: fsm May 18 Col Co (ADBS); May 18 (BRS) and CR. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: fsm May 5 Col Co (ADBC); 1 banded May 18 VFWM (RY); May 18 CR. Belted Kingfisher: thru period (Mob). Common

Flicker: fsm April 7 and thru period (BRS); 4 April 19 HGRS (BH); May 6 East Greenbush (WG); 4 May 11 M'dale (HMBC); May Col Co (ADBC); 2 bandings VFWM (RY); May 18 CR. Pileated Woodpecker: thru period Col Co (ADBC); 2 April 18 HGRS (BH); a few thru period (BRS); May 18 CR. Red-headed Woodpecker: only report April 6,10,12 Col Co (ADBC). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 5 April 19 HGRS (BH); April 12 Col Co (ADBC); April 15 thru period Mariaville (DA). Hairy Woodpecker: thru period. Downy Woodpecker: thru period. Eastern Kingbird: May 5,6,7 East Greenbush (WG); May 18 CR. Great Crested Flycatcher: fsm May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR. Eastern Phoebe: fsm 2 April 5 Mariaville (DA); thru period (Mob). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: May 22 Loudonville (MF); 3 May bandings VFWM (RY). Least Flycatcher: May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR; 27 May bandings VFWM (RY). Eastern Wood Pewee: fsm May 17 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR; May 18 thru period (BRS); 1 banded May 25 VFWM (RY). Olive-sided Flycatcher: May 22 Loudonville (MF). Horned Lark: April 11 thru May Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR; thru period (BRS). Tree Swallow: thru period (Mob). Bank Swallow: May 1 Col Co (ADBC); May 4 (BRS); 1 May 11 M'dale (HMBC); May 18 CR. Rough-winged Swallow: 2 April 27 L7 (B,S); May 18 CR. Barn Swallow: fsm April 28 (B,S); May Col Co (ADBC); many May 11 M'dale (HMBC); May 18 CR. Cliff Swallow: May 18 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR. Purple Martin: May 16 Duanesburg (DA); May 19 CR; May Col Co (ADBC). Blue Jay: thru period (Mob). Common Crow: thru period (Mob). Black-capped Chickadee: thru period (Mob). Tufted Titmouse: thru period. White-breasted Nuthatch: thru period; 2 banded May 11 VFWM (RY). Red-breasted Nuthatch: a few thru period. Brown Creeper: a few thru period; 2 May bandings VFWM (RY). House Wren: thru period: fsm April 25 Col Co (ADBC); 6 May bandings VFWM (RY). Winter Wren: only report May 18 CR. Carolina Wren: only report May 18 Col Co (ADBC). Long-billed Marsh Wren: fsm May 15 BCM (B,S); May 18 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR. Short-billed Marsh Wren: none reported. Mockingbird: thru period. Gray Catbird: fsm April 29 and thru period Col Co (ADBC); thru period (Mob); 41 May bandings VFWM (RY) a new record. Brown Thrasher: fsm April 23 thru period Col Co (ADBC); 1 May 11 M'dale (HMBC); May 18 CR. Robin: thru period. Wood Thrush: thru period (Mob); 4 May bandings VFWM (RY). Hermit Thrush: 2 April 18 HGRS (B,H,S); thru period (Mob). Swainson's Thrush: May 18 Col Co (ADBC); May 17 and 21 Loudonville (MF); May 18 CR; 6 May bandings VFWM (RY). Gray-cheeked Thrush: fsm May 18 Col Co (ADBC); 4 May bandings VFWM (RY). Veery: May 15 thru period Col Co (ADBC); May 13 thru 31 (BRS); May 18 CR; 4 May bandings VFWM (RY). Eastern Bluebird: a few thru period. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: thru the last part of May (Mob). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 4 April 19 HGRS (BH); April 27 thru May 5 (BRS); last seen May 11 Loudonville (MF) and May 18 Col Co (ADBC) and May 18 CR; 6 May bandings VFWM (RY) much reduced over 28 in 1973 and 30 in 1972. Golden-crowned Kinglet: 1 April 19 HGRS (BH); April 17 thru 26 Col Co (ADBC). Water Pipit: 40 May 12 and 1 May 18 Mariaville (DA). Cedar Waxing: fsm May 8 Col Co (ADBC); May 27 (BRS); May 18 CR. Starling: thru period (Mob); 14 May bandings VFWM (RY).

VIREOS--WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: 25,26,28 Col Co (ADBC); 1 banded May 25 VFWM (RY) first ever here. Yellow-throated Vireo: fsm May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 (BRS) and CR; 4 May bandings VFWM (RY) a new banding high. Solitary Vireo: fsm April 28 (BRS); May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR. Red-eyed Vireo: fsm May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 16 Loudonville (MF); May 18 thru period (BRS); May 18 CR. Philadelphia Vireo:

only report May 18 Cr. Warbling Vireo: fsm May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 thru period (BRS); May 18 CR, 8 May bandings VFWM (RY) a new high, none in 1973.

Black-and-white Warbler: May 18 thru period (BRS); May 18 CR; 3 May bandings VFWM (RY). Worm-eating Warbler: only report May 18 CR. Golden-winged Warbler: fsm May 14 thru period Mariaville (DA); May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 (BRS) and CR. Blue-winged Warbler: fsm May 4 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 May 26 (BRS). Tennessee Warbler: May 18 thru 26 (BRS); May 18 CR; May 26 (BRS). Tennessee Warbler: May 18 thru 26 (BRS); May 18 CR; 7 banded May 18 VFWM (RY). Nashville Warbler: May 5 (BRS); May 18 Col Co (ADBC) and CR; 2 banded May 18 VFWM (RY). Northern Parula Warbler: fsm May 18 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 (BRS) and CR; 2 banded May 18 VFWM (RY). Yellow Warbler: April 28 thru period (Mob). Magnolia Warbler: fsm May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 thru 26 (BRS); May 18 CR; 11 May bandings VFWM (RY). Cape May Warbler: fsm May 14 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 (BRS) and CR. Black-throated Blue Warbler: fsm May 11 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 thru 26 (BRS) and CR; 3 May bandings VFWM (RY). Yellow-rumped Warbler: fsm April 27 (BRS); thru period (Mob); 39 May bandings VFWM (RY). Black-throated Green Warbler: fsm May 11 Col Co (ADBC); May 17,18,22 (all males) Loudonville (MF); May 18 CR. Cerulean Warbler: only report May 17 Col Co (ADBC). Blackburnian Warbler: fsm May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR; 1 banded VFWM (RY); May 22 (male) Loudonville (MF). Chestnut-sided Warbler: fsm May 15 thru period Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR; 2 banded VFWM (RY); 1 male May 22 Loudonville (MF). Blackpoll Warbler: May 18 Col Co ADBC and CR 2 banded VFWM (RY); May 19,27 (males) Loudonville (MF). Bay-breasted Warbler: fsm May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR; May 18,22,27 (all males) Loudonville (MF). Pine Warbler: May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR. Prairie Warbler: May 18 Col Co (ADBC); 3 Karner Road (BRS) and CR; 2 May 26 Berne (BRS). Palm Warbler: fsm April 28 Mariaville (DA); May 15 Col Co (ADBC). Ovenbird: May 15 thru period; 3 May bandings VFWM (RY). Northern Waterthrush: April 28 thru period; 18 May bandings VFWM (RY). Louisiana Waterthrush: fsm May 8 Mariaville (DA); May 18 thru period (BRS); May 18 CR. Common Yellowthroat: 2 April 19 HGRS (BH); May 16 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 thru period (BRS); May 18 CR 31 May bandings VFWM (RY). Yellow-breasted Chat: May 18 CR; 1 May 27 SCR (BRS). Wilson's Warbler: May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR; 18 bandings May 17,18 VFWM (RY). Canada Warbler: May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR; 5 bandings May 17,18 VFWM (RY); May 26 (BRS). American Redstart: May 8 thru period (BRS); May 15 Col Co (ADBC); May 18 CR; 35 May bandings VFWM (RY) a new high.

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: House Sparrows: thru period (Mob). Bobolink: fsm May 5 and thru period (Mob). Eastern Meadowlark thru period (Mob). Red-winged Blackbird: thru period (Mob). Orchard Oriole: only report May 18 Col Co (ADBC). Northern Oriole: fsm April 22 thru period (Mob). Common Grackle: thru period (Mob). Brown-headed Cowbird: April 4 thru period (Mob); 14 May bandings VFWM (RY) a new high. Scarlet Tanager: May 15 thru period (Mob). Cardinal: thru period; 5 May bandings VFWM (RY). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: May 5 thru period (Mob); 12 May bandings VFWM (RY). Indigo Bunting: May 10 thru period (Mob); 1 banded May 18 VFWM (RY). Evening Grosbeak: 1 April 19 HGRS (BH); May Col Co (ADBC); few migrants compared to last several years; 79 banded in yard between May 5 and 14 (RY). Purple Finch: thru period (Mob). House Finch: fsm April 1 thru period, fewer at feeders, only 5 banded in April and May (RY). Hoary Redpoll: 1 April 8 Mariaville (DA). Common Redpoll: common first half of April; max

60 April 18 Mariaville (DA); many thru April 22 and 205 banded in yard (RY). Pine Siskin: April 9 thru 29 and thru May Co lCo (ADBC); May 18 CR; 270 banded April 1 thru May 20 at yard feeder (RY). American Goldfinch: thru period (Mob); 22 May bandings VFWM (RY). Red Crossbill: April 1 thru 14 Col Co (ADBC); 12 April 10 at yard feeder (RY). White-winged Crossbill: 3 at yard feeder April 13 and 2 banded May 9 (RY). Rufous-sided Towhee: April 27 thru period (Mob). Savannah Sparrow: fsm April 1 thru period Col Co (ADBC); April 27 thru period (BRS); May 18 CR. Grasshopper Sparrow: fsm May 2 Cal Co (ADBC); May 18 CR. Henslow's Sparrow: May 18 CR; 1 May 26 Berne (BRS). Vesper Sparrow: April 7 thru period (BRS); May 11, 24, 27 Col Co (AFBC); May 18 CR. Dark-eyed Junco: 12 April 19 HGRS (BH); 91 banded April 12 thru 18 in yard and 59 April 7, 11 Jenny Lake (RY); May 10 Loudonville (MF); May 18 CR. Tree Sparrow: 1 April 19 HGRS (RS (BH); 4 ville (DA); April 27 thru period (BRS); May Col Co (ADBC); 5 May LI M'dale (HMBC); May 18 CR. Field Sparrow: April 5 thru period (Mob). White-crowned Sparrow: fsm May 6 thru period. White-throated Sparrow: 4 April 19 MGRS (BH); thru period (Mob; 25 May bandings VFWM (RY). Fox Sparrow: few reports; April 13 thru 28 (BRS); May Col Co (ADBC). Lincoln's Sparrow: only report May 18 CR; 12 May bandings VFWM (RY), tied previous record with 7 on May 17 a new record one day maximum. Swamp Sparrow: many thru period (Mob); 18 May bandings (VFWM (RY). Song Sparrow: 8 April 19 HGRS (BH); many thru period (Mob); 20 May bandings VFWM (RY).

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REVIEW BOOKS RECEIVED

The Dell Encyclopedia of Birds. By Bertel Brunn. Illustrated by Paul Singer. Delacorte Press, 1 Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, New York, New York 10017. 1974. 240 pages. Hardcover \$6.95; Paperback \$2.45.

The Seabirds of Britain and Ireland. By Stanley Crump, W.R.P. Bourne, David Saunders, Taplinger Publishing Company, Inc., 200 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10003. 1974. 287 pages with photographs and range maps. \$14.95

Swans of the World. By Sylvia Bruce Wilmore. Taplinger Publishing Company, Inc., 200 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10003. 1974. 229 pages with photographs and line drawings. \$9.95

BOOK REVIEW

The Sea Has Wings. By Franklin Russell. Illustrated by Les Line. E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc. 201 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10003. 1973. 189 pages with photographs.

With strongly written books about pelagic birds like this, perhaps these animals will find as prominent a niche in people's wonder of the sea as whales and old clipper ships.

Russell's emphasis that the pelagic birds are "wary of land" is awesome to birders who look to terra firma for their security. "Between nesting seasons, the greater shearwaters spend about eight months at sea without sighting land. They crisscross the great ocean in flights that may total one hundred thousand miles or more a year..." These birds are commonly seen from fishing boats beginning about 20 miles in the Atlantic off Long Island.

The author often indulges in fancying the drama of the pelagic birds' sea-surface and sea-wind existence. Once in winter he could imagine them "flung across a revolutionary constellation of wind and rain and ice, of giant waves and clashing currents. Out there, buried hundreds, even thousands, of miles deep in the spume of the storm, millions of them were riding the wind, fighting for their lives. They are, I believe, the toughest forms of life on earth..."

The book focuses on the nesting seabirds of the northeastern Atlantic. Here Les Line, editor of Audubon Magazine, provides his photographic studies which are arranged categorically and intermittently through the volume under the headings, "The Gannetry," "The Puffinry," and "The Ternery." The pictures are remarkable for their journalism like the close-ups of paired Gannets passing algae back and forth and for their artistry like the flying Puffin shown against the full moon.

Russell balances his exuberance with the more troubling realities of nature. He includes as part of the Funk Island breeding scene off Newfoundland "the manifold smells of bird guano, rotting bodies, broken, addled eggs, stagnant, filth-filled waters, the whole assailing the senses simultaneously and leaving strong-stomached observers weak with the

shock of it all." This inclination toward reporting nature's expendability and even horror is characteristic of Russell's books as in "Watchers at the Pond."

The Sea Has Wings appears at a time of increasing interest in pelagic birding. New York State birders are taking trips out of New York City, Freeport, Captree and Montauk Point — a hundred miles offshore in the case of those heading out of the city to the Hudson Canyon area of the Atlantic. Many birders are going aboard regular party fishing boats — particularly those heading for Cox's Ledge, 40 miles off Montauk Point where they look for birds like gannets, jaegers and even fulmars while other passengers are dangling fishing lines in the sea below.

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